

COMPANIES FORM No. 169

Return by a company purchasing
its own shares

169

CHFP000

Please do not
write in
this margin

Pursuant to section 169 of the Companies Act 1985

Please complete
legibly, preferably
in black type, or
bold block letteringTo the Registrar of Companies
(Address overleaf)

For official use

Company number

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2723534

Name of company

* ASTRAZENECA PLC

* insert full name
of company

Note

This return must be
delivered to the
Registrar within a
period of 28 days
beginning with the
first date on which
shares to which it
relates were delivered
to the companyShares were purchased by the company under section 162 of the above Act as
follows:

Class of shares	ORDINARY	ORDINARY	
Number of shares purchased	600,000	600,000	
Nominal value of each share	US\$0.25	US\$0.25	
Date(s) on which the shares were delivered to the company	23/03/04	24/03/04	
Maximum prices paid \$ for each share	2620.8143p	2613.7812p	
Minimum prices paid \$ for each share	2620.8143p	2613.7812p	

§ A private company
is not required to
give this informationThe aggregate amount paid by the company for the shares
to which this return relates was:

£31,407,573.00

Stamp duty payable pursuant to section 66 of the Finance Act
1986 on the aggregate amount at 50p per £100 or part of £100 £157,040.00± insert
Director,
Secretary,
Administrator,
Administrative
Receiver or
Receiver
(Scotland) as
appropriate

Signed



Designation ± SECRETARY

Date 31/03/04

Presentor's name address and
reference (if any):

For official Use

Generi

Post room

A25
COMPANIES HOUSE0177
07/04/04