COMPANIES FORM No. 169

Return by a company purchasing its own shares

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 lettering

* insert full name

of company

Name of company

To the Registrar of Companies (Address overleaf)

For official use

Company number

2723534

PLC ASTRAZENECA



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 company

Shares were purchased by the company under section 162 of the above Act as follows:

	Class of shares	ORDINARY	ORDINARY	ORDINARY
d	Number of shares purchased	400,000	140,500	460,000
	Nominal value of each share	US\$ 0.25	US\$0.25	US\$ 0.25
	Date(s) on which the shares were delivered to the company	22/09/03	24/09/03	25/09/03
,	Maximum prices paid § for each share	2645p	2652.86736	2659.41413p
	Minimum prices paid § for each share	2645p	2652.86736,	2659.41413p

§ A private company is not required to give this information

> The aggregate amount paid by the company for the shares to which this return relates was:

£26,540,583-64

Stamp duty payable pursuant to section 66 of the Finance Act 1986 on the aggregate amount at 50p per £100 or part of £100 £132, 705-00

‡ Insert Director. Secretary, Administrator, Administrative Receiver or Receiver (Scotland) as appropriate

Signed

Designation ± SECRETARY Date 2/10/03

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

For official Use General Section

A46 COMPANIES HOUSE

Post room

11/10/03