# **Merck Chemicals Ltd**

Directors' report and financial statements Registered number 00660457 31 December 2010

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Merck Chemicals Ltd Directors' report and financial statements 31 December 2010

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# Company information

**Directors** 

KR Bischoff

JO Diaz Lelevier (resigned 31 December 2010)

JM Dove DR Jeans

SE Turner (appointed 19 March 2010 / resigned 31

January 2011)

Secretary

NG Fraser

Company number

00660457

**Auditors** 

KPMG LLP St Nicholas House 31 Park Row Nottingham NG1 6FQ

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc Welwyn Garden City Hertfordshire AL7 3PT

Registered office

Boulevard Industrial Park

Padge Road Beeston Nottingham NG9 2JR

# Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2010

#### Principal activities

The principal activities of the company during the year were the sale of speciality chemicals and the provision of research and development services

#### **Business performance and development**

Generally the economy remained weak in 2010, and the downturn in the Euro had an adverse effect on turnover in the year. However, despite these factors, the company achieved a top-line growth of 13.1% over 2009.

The operating loss of £672,000 (2009 £3,493,000) was adversely affected by two items additional payments into the defined benefits pension scheme in order to reduce the scheme deficit, and amortization of goodwill Excluding these items operating profit was £1,474,000 (2009 £1,697,000) and return on sales 5 1% (2009 6 7%)

#### Risks and uncertainties

The management undertake a constant and proactive review of the risks facing the company, and formally report on these at Group level twice a year. The risks considered include contractual risk, risk to property and security, risk to employees and the public, business continuity, security of systems and data. All risks are managed to a minimum level and no significant risks, financial or otherwise, which fall outside the usual risks faced by a business in this industry, have been identified

#### Key performance indicators

The key measures of financial performance are turnover, gross profit margin, return on sales and return on capital employed. These are as follows

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Turnover	28,631	25,323
Gross profit margin (Gross profit expressed as a percentage of turnover)	30 0%	35 0%
Return on sales (Operating result expressed as a percentage of turnover)	(2.3)%	(13 8)%
Return on capital employed (Operating result expressed as a percentage of opening net assets employed)	(5.5)%	(25 6)%

In addition to these financial indicators the company monitors other key performance indicators including staff statistics, marketing trends, freight and shipping statistics, and customer service levels

#### Results and dividends

The loss for the year after tax amounted to £742,000 (2009 loss £1,419,000) The directors do not recommend payment of a dividend (2009 £nil)

#### Fixed assets

The movements in fixed assets are shown in note 11 to the financial statements. In the opinion of the directors the value of the company's properties does not materially differ from that at which they are shown in the balance sheet

# Directors' report (continued)

#### Directors and directors' interests

The directors holding office during the year were as follows

Mr KR Bischoff Mr DR Jeans Mr JO Diaz Lelevier Mr JM Dove Mrs SE Turner

#### Political or charitable donations

No contributions to political organisations were made during the year (2009 £nil)

Charitable donations totalled £944 (2009 £628)

## Disclosure of information to auditors

The directors who held office at the date of approval of the Directors' report confirm that, as far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all steps that he ought to have taken as a director to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information

#### Auditors

Pursuant to Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, the auditors will be deemed to be reappointed and KPMG LLP will therefore continue in office

By order of the board

J M Dove Director Dated 13 April 2011

# Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the Directors' Report and the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



# Independent auditors' report to the members of Merck Chemicals Ltd

We have audited the financial statements of Merck Chemicals Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2010 set out on pages 6 to 17 The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted-Accounting Practice)

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' 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 and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

## Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the APB's web-site at <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/private.cfm">www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/private.cfm</a>.

#### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2010 and of its loss for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

## Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made, or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

CN Parkin (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants St Nicholas House Park Row Nottingham NG1 6FO

Dated 13 April 2011

# Profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 December 2010			
	Note	2010 £000	2009 £000
Turnover	2	28,631	25,323
Cost of sales		(20,047)	(16,449)
Gross profit		8,584	8,874
Distribution costs		(6,357)	(5,317)
Administration expenses		(3,507)	(7,322)
Other operating income		608	272
Operating profit before goodwill amortisation and additional pension			
contributions		1,474	1,697
Goodwill amortisation		(781)	(780)
Additional pension contributions		(1,365)	(4,410)
Operating loss	3	(672)	(3 493)
Interest receivable and similar income	7	13	10
Interest payable and similar charges	8	(336)	(225)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(995)	(3,708)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	9	253	2,289
Loss for the financial year		(742)	(1,419)
		<del></del>	

In both the current and preceding year, the company made no material acquisitions and had no discontinued operations

There were no recognised gains or losses in either the current or preceding year other than those disclosed in the profit and loss account and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented

# Balance sheet at 31 December 2010

	Note	2010		2009	
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	10		12,488		13,269
Tangible assets	11		8,024		7,796
			20,512		21,065
Current assets Stocks	12	1,639		1,313	
Debtors	13	7,239		7,939	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,665		180	
		10,543		9,432	
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	14	(4,623)		(5,147)	
Net current assets			5,920	<del></del>	4,285
Total assets less current liabilities			26,432		25,350
Creditors amounts falling due after one year	15		(13,814)		(12,000)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	16		(1,150)		(1,140)
Net assets			11,468		12,210
Capital and reserves					
Equity					
Share capital	17		3,300		3,300
Profit and loss account	18 19		(5,944)		(5,202)
Share premium account	19		14,112		14,112
Shareholders' funds			11,468		12,210

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 13 April 2011 and were signed on its behalf by

J M Dove Director

Company number 00660457

#### Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

#### 1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost accounting rules

After making appropriate enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts

The company is exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 (revised) to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking and its ultimate parent undertaking includes the company in its own published consolidated financial statements

#### Turnover

Turnover represents net invoiced sales of goods excluding value added tax, in accordance with the principal activity. Other operating income represents recharges of costs incurred for people who are wholly or partly paid here but working for another group company.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows.

Leasehold property

over period of lease

Plant and machinery

between 10% and 20% per annum

## Goodwill

Goodwill arising on the purchase of assets and trade is capitalised and is amortised to nil by equal instalments over its estimated useful life, to a maximum of 20 years

#### Stocks and work in progress

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost, in general, is determined on a weighted average basis. Provision is made for any obsolete or slow moving items

#### Foreign currencies

Assets, liabilities, revenues and costs denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at the rates of exchange ruling at the dates of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date are translated at year end rates of exchange. Gains and losses on translation are included in the profit and loss account.

#### Research and development

All revenue expenditure on research and development is written off in the profit and loss account in the year in which it is incurred

#### Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the result for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 19

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted

#### Pension scheme

The company participates in a funded defined benefit scheme, operated by a subsidiary of Merck KGaA, to which the company and members make contributions. Because the Company is unable to identify its share of the schemes assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis, as permitted by FRS 17 'Retirement Benefits' the scheme is accounted for by the Company as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme. The charge in the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period. The contributions are held in separately administered funds from the company's assets.

#### Leased assets

Where the company enters into a lease or hire purchase contract which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the asset is recorded in the balance sheet as a tangible fixed asset and is depreciated over its estimated useful life or the term of the contract, whichever is shorter Future instalments under such contracts, net of finance charges, are included within creditors. Rentals payable are apportioned between the finance element, which is charged to the profit and loss account, and the capital element which reduces the outstanding obligation for future instalments.

All other leases are accounted for as 'operating leases' and the rental charges are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the life of the lease

## Classification of financial instruments issued by the company

Financial instruments issued by the company are treated as equity (i.e. forming part of shareholders' funds) only to the extent that they meet the following two conditions

- (a) they include no contractual obligations upon the company to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the company, and
- (b) where the instrument will or may be settled in the company's own equity instruments, it is either a non-derivative that includes no obligation to deliver a variable number of the company's own equity instruments or is a derivative that will be settled by the company exchanging a fixed amount of cash or other financial assets for a fixed number of its own equity instruments

To the extent that this definition is not met, the proceeds of issue are classified as a financial liability. Where the instrument so classified takes the legal form of the company's own shares, the amounts presented in these financial statements for called up share capital and share premium account exclude amounts in relation to those shares.

Finance payments associated with financial liabilities are dealt with as part of interest payable and similar charges. Finance payments associated with financial instruments that are classified as part of shareholders' funds (see dividends policy), are dealt with as appropriations in the reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds.

## Dividends on shares presented within shareholders' funds

Dividends unpaid at the balance sheet date are only recognised as a liability at that date to the extent that they are appropriately authorised and are no longer at the discretion of the company. Unpaid dividends that do not meet these criteria are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

## Related party disclosures

As the company is wholly owned by Merck KGaA, it has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 8 and has, therefore, not disclosed transactions or balances with entities which form part of the group headed by Merck KGaA. The consolidated financial statements of Merck KGaA, within which this company is included, can be obtained from the address given in note 22

## 2 Turnover

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Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the Company, and is exclusive of VAT

2010 2009

	2010	2009
	£000	£000
Analysis of turnover by destination		
United Kingdom	12,599	11,567
Europe	16,032	13,756
	28,631	25,323
Operating loss		
	2010	2009
	000£	£000
The operating loss is stated after charging		
Research and development (see below)	8,188	7,269
Hire of plant and machinery under operating leases	254	202
Leasehold property rent	162	168
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 11)	1,026	869
Goodwill amortisation (note 10)	781	780
Auditors remuneration		
- audit of these financial statements	20	19

Substantially all the cost of research and development activity is recharged to group companies

## 4 Directors and employees

· other services

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Staff costs during the year		
Salaries and wages	5,630	4,678
Social security costs	577	593
Other pension costs (see note 20)	1,879	4,838
	8,086	10,109
	<del></del>	

# 5 Number of employees

The average number of persons employed during the year, including directors, was as follows

		Average number 2010	of employees 2009
		Number	Number
	Research and development	66	50
	Distribution	67	59
	Administration	11	15
		144	124
6	Remuneration of directors		
		2010	2009
		£000	£000
	Directors' emoluments	509	337
	Pension contributions	45	27
		554	364
	The emoluments of the highest paid director were £297,000 (2009 £229,000 defined benefit scheme	He is not a m	nember of a
		Average numbe	r of directors
	Retirement benefits are accruing to the following number of directors under		
	Kettrement benefits are accraing to the following number of afrectors under	2010	2009
	Defined benefit schemes	ŧ	
			2009
7	Defined benefit schemes	ŧ	2009
7	Defined benefit schemes Defined contribution schemes	2010	2009
7	Defined benefit schemes Defined contribution schemes	! 1	2009
7	Defined benefit schemes Defined contribution schemes  Other interest receivable and similar income	2010	2009 I - 2009 £000
7	Defined benefit schemes Defined contribution schemes  Other interest receivable and similar income	2010 £000	2009

8	Interest payable and similar charges		
U	interest payable and similar charges	2010	2009
		€000	£000
	On loans from group undertakings, repayable within five years Other	288 33	190 35
	Net exchange losses	15	-
		336	225
		<u></u>	
9	Taxation		
		2010 £000	2009 £000
	Analysis of credit in year	***************************************	2000
	Current tax		
	Payment received for group relief surrendered	(294)	(1,717)
	Adjustments in respect of previous periods	31	(549)
	Total current tax	(263)	(2,266)
	Deferred tax (note 16)		
	Reversal of timing differences	10	(23)
	Tax credit on ordinary activities	(253)	(2,289)
	Factors affecting the tax credit for the current year		
	The current tax credit for the year is lower (2009 higher) than the standard in UK of 28% (2009 28%). The differences are explained below	ate of corporatio	n tax in the
		2010	2009
		£000	£000
	Current tax reconciliation		
	Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(995)	(3,708)
	Current tax at 28% (2009 28%)	(279)	(1,038)
	Effects of		
	Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	36	(270)
	Additional tax deduction on expenditure Disallowable goodwill amortisation	(341) 219	(370) 218
	Net differences between depreciation and capital allowances for the year	71	(556)
	Adjustments in respect of previous periods	31	(549)
	Total current tax credit (see above)	(263)	(2,266)

## 9 Taxation (continued)

## Factors affecting future tax charges

The Emergency Budget on 22 June 2010 announced that the UK corporation tax rate will reduce from 28% to 24% over a period of 4 years from 2011. The first reduction in UK corporation tax from 28% to 27% was substantively enacted on 20 July 2010 and will be effective from 1 April 2011. This will reduce the company's future tax charge accordingly

# 10 Intangible fixed assets

	Goodwill £000
Cost At 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2010	15,610
Amortisation At 1 January 2010 Charge for the year	2,341 781
At 31 December 2010	3,122
Net book value At 31 December 2010	12,488
At 31 December 2009	13,269

# 11 Tangible fixed assets

		Leasehold properties £000	Plant and machinery £000	Payments on account and assets in the course of construction £000	Total £000
	Cost				
	At 1 January 2010	5,021	6,558	2,529	14,108
	Additions Transfers	171 2,395	905 123	178 (2,518)	1,254
	Disposals	2,373	(15)	(2,316)	(15)
	At 31 December 2010	7,587	7,571	189	15,347
	Depreciation				
	At 1 January 2010	1,415	4,897	-	6,312
	Charge for year Disposals	270 -	756 (15)	•	1,026 (15)
	At 31 December 2010	1,685	5,638	-	7,323
	Net book value				
	At 31 December 2010	5,902	1,933	189	8,024
	At 31 December 2009	3,606	1,661	2,529	7,796
	The net book value of land and build	ings is made up as follow	ws		
				2010 £000	2009 £000
	Show breecholds with loss than \$0 wars	ta muu oo aftha halamaa she	at data	117	135
	Short leaseholds with less than 50 years Long leaseholds	to run as of the balance she	et date	5,785	3,471
				5,902	3,606
12	Stocks				
				2010	2009
				£000	£000
	Finished goods			1,639	1,313
					<del></del>

The directors do not consider the replacement cost of stocks to be materially different from their carrying value

13	Debtors		
		2010 £000	2009 £000
	Trade debtors	4,618	4,353
	Amounts owed by group undertakings Other debtors	2,459	3,412 37
	Prepayments and accrued income	162	137
		7,239	7,939
14	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2010	2009
		£000	£000
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to group undertakings	1,199	1,718
	Taxation and social security	2,429 195	2,565 153
	Other creditors	100	-
	Accruals and deferred income	700	711
		4,623	5,147
15			
15	Creditors: amounts falling due after one year		
		2010 £000	2009 £000
	Amounts owed to group undertakings Accruals and deferred income	13,800 14	12,000
		13,814	12,000
• /			
16	Provisions for liabilities and charges		
			Deferred
			tax £000
	At 1 January 2010 Deferred tax charge for the year (see note 9)		1,140
	At 31 December 2010		1,150
	The elements of deferred tax are as follows		
	The elements of deferred tax are as follows	2010	2009
		£000	£000£
	Differences between depreciation and capital allowances	1,150	1,140

## 17 Share capital

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Authorised, allotted, called up and fully paid		
Equity share capital 3,250,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	3,250	3,250
50,000 non-cumulative 4% preference shares of £1 each	50	50
	3,300	3,300
	*	

The preference shares have no voting rights On a winding up, the surplus assets of the company, remaining after payment of its other liabilities, will be used to repay the capital of the holders of the preference shares and ordinary shares in that order

#### 18 Reserves

	loss account £000
At 1 January 2010 Loss for the year	(5,202) (742)
At 31 December 2010	(5,944)

## 19 Reconciliation of movements in equity shareholders' funds

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total £000
Opening shareholders' funds Loss for the financial year	3,300	14,112	(5,202) (742)	12,210 (742)
Closing shareholders' funds	3,300	14,112	(5,944)	11,468

# 20 Pension scheme

The total pension cost for the year ended 31 December 2010 was £1,879,000 (2009 £4,838,000)

The Company is a member of a pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay Because the Company is unable to identify its share of the schemes assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis, as permitted by FRS 17 'Retirement Benefits' the scheme is accounted for by the Company as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme

The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of a professional qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. The most significant actuarial assumptions were a 5 8% (2009-6.2%) annual rate of return on investments and a 4 3% (2009-4.6%) annual increase in pay

Profit and

## 20 Pension scheme (continued)

A full valuation of the Merck Pension Scheme was carried out for funding purposes as at 31 December 2007. The assets and liabilities were updated in an approximate way to 31 December 2010, and the update was based on the following key assumptions.

	2010	2009	2008
Inflation Salary increases Pension increases (on benefits earned before 1 July 2006)	3.3%pa 4 3%pa 3.5%pa	3 6%pa 4 6%pa 3 8%pa	3 5% pa 4 5% pa 3 7% pa
Pension increases (on benefits earned after 1 July 2006)	3 3%ра	3 6%ра	3 5% pa
Discount rate	5 3%pa	5 6%pa	6 6% pa

The update revealed a market value of assets £204 6 million and a value of liabilities of £231 4 million. The revealed deficit of £26 8 million has no direct impact on the company, but the company contributions being paid reflect the £54 million deficit revealed by the funding valuation as at 31 December 2007.

### 21 Commitments

(a) Capital commitments at the end of the financial year, for which no provision has been made, are as follows

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Authorised but not contracted for	80	443
Contracted	36	238

(b) Annual commitments under operating leases as follows

	Land and buildings		Plant and equipment	
	2010	2009	2010	2009
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Operating leases which expire				
Within one year	-	•	12	9
In the second to fifth years inclusive	126	-	68	87
Over five years	38	161	-	-
	164	161	80	96

## 22 Ultimate parent undertaking

The company's ultimate parent undertaking is Merck KGaA, a company registered in Germany. This company is 73.8% owned by E. Merck, a general partnership formed pursuant to the laws of Germany, with the remaining equity being quoted on the Frankfurt stock exchange. The only group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Merck KGaA. The consolidated financial statements of this group are available to the public and may be obtained from Frankfurter Strasse 250, D-64293 Darmstadt, Germany