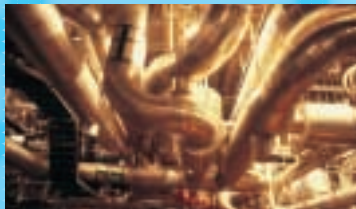




informa

Information and communication



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Operating highlights

Profit growth in all six of our markets.

Two major acquisitions in Finance and Insurance and Life Sciences.

Record breaking events in Telecoms, Energy and Maritime.

Continued strong growth in electronic subscriptions.

Financial highlights

	Half year 2001	Half year 2000	Increase
Turnover (£m)	178.9	147.5	21%
Operating profit before amortisation of goodwill (£m)	26.6	23.4	14%
Profit on ordinary activities before tax, excluding amortisation of goodwill (£m)	22.6	20.6	10%
Earnings per share (adjusted) (pence)	12.77p	11.80p	8%
Earnings per share (basic) (pence)	9.03p	9.56p	(6%)

Operating review

Results

We are pleased to report the results for Informa Group for the six months ended 30 June 2001. Turnover at £179million was 21% up on the comparable period last year (£147.5million) while pre-tax profits before goodwill amortisation were 10% ahead at £22.6million. Operating profits (before interest, goodwill and tax) were 14% higher at £26.6million (2000: £23.4million) and 2% higher on a like for like basis. Adjusted earnings per share were 12.77 pence (2000: 11.80 pence) and we will be paying an interim dividend of 2.66 pence per share, up 5%, on 12 November 2001 to members on the register on 12 October 2001.

Trading

These results demonstrate the strength of Informa's market leading brands and the benefits of our spread of operations across six international business marketplaces. All six of our major market sectors increased profits for the half year despite difficult market conditions. We have reduced staff numbers by 5% and the related costs of £1.2million have been fully absorbed within the first half results. This restructuring will produce savings of £4million in a full year.

Finance and Insurance

Our Finance and Insurance division profits grew by 43% to £5.5million

Peter Rigby Chairman

These results demonstrate the strength of Informa's market leading brands and the benefits of our spread of operations across six international business marketplaces.





helped by electronic subscription growth and the acquisition of MCM. MCM provides electronic services on corporate and government bonds and foreign exchange and is now fully on board and trading well.

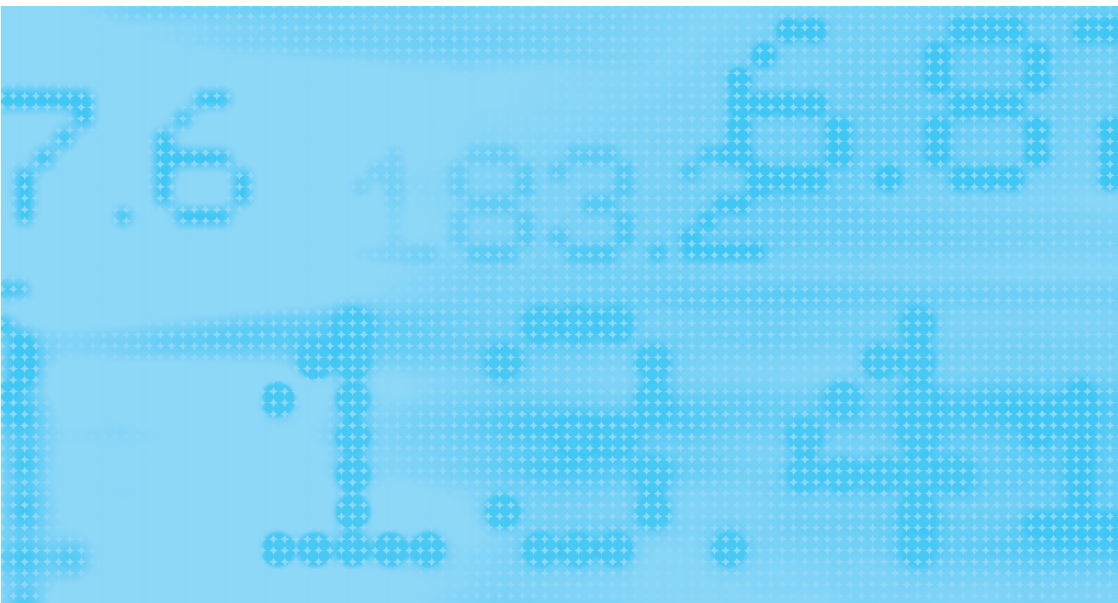
Life Sciences

Life Sciences profits rose by 156% to £1.6million assisted by the successful integration of the newly acquired BioTechniques publishing business, which is trading above our expectations. We are also seeing strong organic growth in this fast developing market. Our flagship Drug Discovery Technologies conference and exhibition, which falls in the second half of the year, enjoyed record success in Boston

last month, attracting 1300 delegates and more than 330 exhibitors, showing growth of 20% on last year. Life Sciences is now becoming a significant part of Informa's business and is expected to be an important growth engine for the future.

Maritime, Trade and Transport

Maritime, Trade and Transport profits grew by 5% year on year to £3.4million and benefited from a record Cruise + Ferry exhibition held in London in May. The division had good revenue growth in events and electronic subscription services and showed a welcome recovery in advertising sales.



Law and Tax

This division saw an 8% improvement in profit to £3.9million derived mainly from strong professional publishing results and a successful event programme in continental Europe generally and Germany in particular.

Commodities and Energy

Commodities and Energy performed well, seeing 17% growth in profits to £2.2million, with energy-related information services and events showing particular strength. Commodities benefited from highly profitable events in coffee, commercial fishing and nickel.

Telecoms and Media

Despite the well-publicised slowdown in external market conditions in the period, our Telecoms and Media division delivered profits of £10.3million just ahead of the same period last year. This was largely due to the successful 3GSM World Congress held in Cannes in February.

Despite the difficulties faced by the sector, our sponsorship and exhibition revenues continue to grow. Exhibition stands at the 3GSM Congress, to be held in Cannes in 2002, are already sold out (with a 15% increase over 2001) and we have an increase of 49% in exhibition bookings for our 2002 Bluetooth event compared to the event

David Gilbertson Chief Executive

All six of our major market sectors increased profits for the half year.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gilbertson'.



held in May 2001. Although we have seen lower delegate attendances at our conferences compared with last year, more companies are being represented and we are continuing to grow market share.

Subscription numbers on our electronic and hard copy periodicals and information services are holding up well. Our business model has considerable flexibility and we have reduced costs and dropped conference products which were likely to become marginal in the second half. We have left creative muscle intact and Informa's leading position in this market will leave us well placed to respond to any upturn.

Outlook

We provide business information to six diverse markets over a number of geographical areas, in each of which we have market-leading positions. Much of our income is steady repeat business and only 11% is advertising related. Electronic publishing subscriptions are a growing part of our business, now accounting for 17% of Group profits (2000: 12%).

We have a strong, flexible and efficient business and we are confident it will continue to do well and produce good results. We remain positive about the strengths of Informa's business and its future prospects.



Consolidated profit and loss account

For the period ended 30 June 2001

		Acquisitions		Continuing operations	Continuing operations	Continuing operations
	notes	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2001 Half year unaudited £000	Total 2001 Half year unaudited £000	Total 2000 Half year unaudited £000	Total 2000 Half year audited £000
Turnover	2	164,773	14,123	178,896	147,529	296,992
Operating profit before goodwill amortisation		24,434	2,124	26,558	23,419	46,811
Goodwill amortisation		(3,520)	(1,082)	(4,602)	(2,622)	(5,900)
Operating profit	2	20,914	1,042	21,956	20,797	40,911
Profit before interest	2			21,956	20,797	40,911
Net interest payable				(3,968)	(2,839)	(7,130)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax				17,988	17,958	33,781
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	3			(7,003)	(6,780)	(12,400)
Profit on ordinary activities after tax				10,985	11,178	21,381
Minority interests				142	(20)	(174)
Profit for the financial period				11,127	11,158	21,207
Dividends				(3,886)	(2,981)	(8,922)
Retained profit for the financial period				7,241	8,177	12,285
Dividends per share				2.66p	2.53p	7.60p
Earnings per share				9.03p	9.56p	18.13p
Earnings per share (basic)	4			8.78p	9.42p	17.84p
Earnings per share (diluted)	4			12.77p	11.80p	23.17p
Adjusted basic earnings per share	4					

Consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses

For the period ended 30 June 2001

	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000
Profit for the financial period	11,127	11,158	21,207
Currency translation differences on foreign currency net investments	2,597	1,213	1,156
Total gains and losses recognised since last accounts	13,724	12,371	22,363

Consolidated balance sheet

At 30 June 2001



	notes	2001 30 June unaudited £000	2000 31 December audited £000	2000 30 June unaudited £000
Fixed assets				
Intangible assets	5	188,432	131,166	110,964
Tangible assets		22,123	16,095	14,917
Investments		4,770	3,434	3,162
		215,325	150,695	129,043
Current assets				
Stocks and work in progress		7,212	7,648	5,318
Debtors		71,037	69,743	48,054
Cash at bank and in hand		1,853	3,047	4,730
		80,102	80,438	58,102
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		(124,536)	(134,620)	(107,018)
Net current liabilities		(44,434)	(54,182)	(48,916)
Total assets less current liabilities		170,891	96,513	80,127
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		(120,261)	(109,565)	(96,798)
Provisions for liabilities and charges		(510)	(674)	(1,453)
Minority interests		(76)	(218)	(64)
Net assets/(liabilities)		50,044	(13,944)	(18,188)
Capital and reserves				
Called up share capital	6	12,785	11,800	11,782
Share premium account	6	120,098	66,933	66,758
Special reserve		2	2	2
Other reserve		37,398	37,398	37,398
Profit and loss account		(120,239)	(130,077)	(134,128)
Shareholders' funds – equity		50,044	(13,944)	(18,188)

Consolidated cash flow statement

For the period ended 30 June 2001

	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000
notes			
Cash flow from operating activities	15,745	24,166	46,474
Return on investments and servicing of finance	(3,937)	(2,564)	(8,563)
Taxation	(3,728)	(3,041)	(10,991)
Capital expenditure	(6,218)	(3,164)	(6,584)
Acquisitions and disposals	(58,326)	(12,195)	(32,226)
Equity dividends paid	(6,438)	(5,465)	(8,433)
Cash outflow/(inflow) before financing	(62,902)	(2,263)	(20,323)
Financing	62,526	700	16,044
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period	(376)	(1,563)	(4,279)

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt

For the period ended 30 June 2001

	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 audited £000
notes			
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period	(376)	(1,563)	(4,279)
Cash inflow from increase in debt financing	(9,774)	(1,386)	(16,388)
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	(10,150)	(2,949)	(20,667)
Translation differences	673	726	626
Movement in net debt in the period	(9,477)	(2,223)	(20,041)
Net debt at the start of the period	8 (111,381)	(91,340)	(91,340)
Net debt at the end of the period	8 (120,858)	(93,563)	(111,381)



1 Basis of preparation

With the following exception, the financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2001, which are unaudited, have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out in our 2000 Annual Report and Accounts approved on 6 March 2001:

FRS 18: 'Accounting Policies' has been adopted, although this has had no effect on the period being reported on.

2 Segmental analysis

Underlying operating profit in the segmental analysis excludes the amortisation of goodwill.

Analysis by market sector	Turnover			Underlying operating profit/(loss)		
	2001 30 June unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000	2001 30 June unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000
Telecoms and Media	50,882	42,380	74,693	10,320	10,218	18,195
Finance and Insurance	41,202	24,556	53,235	5,478	3,838	8,047
Law and Tax	29,210	30,117	56,526	3,900	3,616	6,905
Maritime, Trade and Transport	28,609	24,860	55,278	3,447	3,283	7,282
Commodities and Energy	15,616	15,851	32,064	2,250	1,922	4,190
Life Sciences	12,383	7,940	19,724	1,595	624	2,574
Other	994	1,825	5,472	(432)	(82)	(382)
	178,896	147,529	296,992	26,558	23,419	46,811

Analysis by market sector	Profit/(loss) before interest		
	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Full year audited £000
Telecoms and Media	9,753	9,900	17,136
Finance and Insurance	3,813	3,036	6,456
Law and Tax	3,314	3,388	6,250
Maritime, Trade and Transport	2,624	2,602	5,867
Commodities and Energy	1,763	1,389	3,163
Life Sciences	1,143	563	2,467
Other	(454)	(81)	(428)
	21,956	20,797	40,911

Notes continued

3 Taxation

The underlying worldwide operating tax rate for the Group, after removing the effect of goodwill, is 31% (2000 half year: 33%). However, due to goodwill amortisation, the effective worldwide tax rate is 39% (2000 half year: 38%).

	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000
United Kingdom corporation tax	3,805	3,702	6,340
Overseas tax	3,198	3,078	6,060
	7,003	6,780	12,400

4 Earnings and adjusted earnings per share

In order to show results from operating activities on a comparable basis, an adjusted earnings per share has been calculated which excludes amortisation of goodwill.

	2001 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Half year unaudited £000	2000 Total audited £000
Profit for the financial period	11,127	11,158	21,207
Adjustments:			
Amortisation of goodwill	4,602	2,622	5,900
Adjusted earnings	15,729	13,780	27,107
Weighted average number of equity shares			
– for earnings and adjusted earnings	123,212,504	116,773,064	116,996,711
Effect of dilutive share options	3,562,413	1,662,864	1,897,334
Weighted average number of equity shares			
– for diluted earnings	126,774,917	118,435,928	118,894,045
Earnings per equity share	9.03p	9.56p	18.13p
Diluted earnings per equity share	8.78p	9.42p	17.84p
Adjusted earnings per equity share	12.77p	11.80p	23.17p



5 Acquisitions

The Group made two significant acquisitions. MCM Group Inc. was acquired for net cash consideration of £28,291,000 in February. Eaton Massachusetts Business Trust (and with it the BioTechniques titles) was acquired for cash and shares totalling £21,395,000 in March.

After opening balance sheets, fair value adjustments and acquisition related expenses are taken into account £61,825,000 was added to goodwill relating to all new acquisitions.

During the period the Group sold its interest in Neil Stewart Associates for £350,000. Neither a profit nor a loss was made on this disposal.

6 Capital and reserves

During the period the Group raised £53,879,000, after expenses, from the issue of 9,732,705 shares at 560 pence in a combined vendor and cash placing.

As a result of this event an additional £493,000 was payable on the year end 2000 dividend.

7 Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2001	2000	2000
	Half year	Half year	Total
	unaudited	unaudited	audited
	£000	£000	£000
Operating profit	21,956	20,797	40,911
Depreciation charges	2,916	1,715	4,304
Amortisation of goodwill	4,602	2,622	5,900
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	10	10	27
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	507	1,017	(1,356)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	7,079	(2,526)	(20,549)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(21,049)	744	17,274
Other operating items	(276)	(213)	(37)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	15,745	24,166	46,474

Notes continued

8 Analysis of net debt

For the period ended 30 June 2001

	At 1 January audited £000	Reclassi- fications unaudited £000	Cash flow unaudited £000	Exchange movement unaudited £000	At 30 June unaudited £000
Cash at bank and in hand	3,047	–	(1,278)	85	1,854
Overdrafts	(2,986)	–	903	–	(2,083)
	61	–	(375)	85	(229)
Bank loans due in less than one year	(6,392)	–	2,680	–	(3,712)
Loan notes due in less than one year	(75)	(429)	64	–	(440)
Bank loans due after one year	(104,546)	–	(12,519)	588	(116,477)
Loan notes due after one year	(429)	429	–	–	–
Total	(111,381)	–	10,150	673	(120,858)

Principal operating businesses



United Kingdom

Agra Group
Informa UK

Europe

The Euroforum Group has companies established in Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland

USA

IBC USA Conferences
Informa Financial Inc.
MCM Inc.
Washington Policy and Analysis

Worldwide

IBC Asia (in Singapore)
IBC do Brasil
IBC Gulf Conferences
Informa Asia Publishing (in Hong Kong)
Informa Australia

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The comparative figures for the financial year ended 31 December 2000 are not the Company's statutory accounts for that financial year. Those accounts have been reported on by the Company's auditors and delivered

to the Registrar of Companies. The report of the auditors was unqualified and did not contain a statement under section 237 (2) or (3) of the Companies Act 1985. The interim results will be mailed to shareholders.

Additional copies will be available from the registered office at:
19 Portland Place
London W1B 1PX



Informa Group plc
19 Portland Place
London W1B 1PX
Tel +44 (0)20 7453 2222
Fax +44 (0)20 7436 2450
www.informa.com

Company number
3099067