

# Operating profit

	H1 05 £m	H1 04 £m	Increase	
Operating profit	104.1	86.1	20.9%	
Exceptional (profit)/loss	(4.0)	2.9		
Operating profit before exceptional items	100.1	89.0	12.5%	

### Operating profit before exceptional items

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#### Variances at constant rates

Operating units		9.2
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Central	costs	1.7
- Collidia		

H1 05	at H1	04 rates	99.9
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Exchange	translation	0.2

H1	05		100.1

#### Interest, tax and minorities

Net interest charge

	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Bank/other interest	2.0	(1.4)
Stock holding interest	(4.4)	(3.4)
	(2.4)	(4.8)

- 2005 Headline subsidiaries tax rate\* 25.5%
  - Benefited from:
    - No UK losses
    - Greece one off recovery of 0.5%
- Profit attributable to minorities £2.1m, up £0.3m

#### Dividends and share buy back

- Interim dividend up 26.7% at 19.0p per share
- Policy remains at interim stage one third/two thirds interim/final split
- £31.0m returned to shareholders through buy back programme to date
- Full impact on earnings yet to be seen

## Operational cash flow

	H1 05
Operating profit before exceptional items	£m 100.1
Depreciation/amortisation	13.3
Working capital	(5.2)
Other	6.6
Cash generated from operations	114.8
Net capex	(35.1)
Operational cash flow	79.7

#### Total cash flow

	H1 05 (
Operational cash flow	79.7
Acquisitions	(28.5)
Disposals*	(5.5)
Tax/interest	(29.8)
Other (mainly effect of foreign exchange rate	es) 10.2
Free cash flow	26.1
Share buy back/dividends	(58.2)
Total net funds movement	(32.1)

<sup>\*</sup> Includes payment of £6.8m in claims re non-motors businesses