



Results for the year ended  
31 December 2009

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# Contents



- Commercial highlights
- Financial highlights
- Financial performance
  - Profit and loss
  - Net assets
  - Cash flow and debt
- Divisional performance
  - Alexander Proudfoot
  - Ineum Consulting
  - Kurt Salmon Associates
- Prospects



# Commercial highlights

# Commercial highlights



**ALEXANDER PROUDFOOT**  
*people • productivity • profitability*

**ineum**   
**consulting**™

 **KURT SALMON ASSOCIATES**

- Challenging external economic environment
  - Client cut-backs and delays in discretionary expenditure
- Strong H1 from Alexander Proudfoot but low input throughout year
- Ineum Consulting resilient, particularly in French public sector
- H2 return to profitability by Kurt Salmon Associates
- Strong management action mitigated revenue shortfall
- Offers for Ineum Consulting rejected by MCG Board



# Financial highlights

# Financial highlights

## > RESILIENT PERFORMANCE

Strong management action mitigated slow customer demand

- Revenue down 19% to £276.5m (2008: £343.1m)
- Underlying\* operating profit down 19% to £28.0m (2008: £34.7m)
- Underlying operating margin unchanged at 10.1% (2008: 10.1%)
- Underlying earnings per share down 19% to 5.0p (2008: 6.2p)
- Total dividend 0.4p per share (2008: 1.3p)
- Net debt up 34% to £83.5m (2008: £62.1m)
  - Within bank covenant limits at each testing date
- Non-recurring costs £15.7m (2008: £21.5m) relating to the closure of Parson US and Alexander Proudfoot Australia, the offer process for Ineum Consulting and management cost-cutting actions

The term 'underlying' is defined as: 'before non-recurring items, the amortisation of acquired intangible assets and the impairment of acquired goodwill from continuing operations'.



# Financial performance



# Profit and loss account

## > OPERATING MARGIN

Underlying operating margin was 10.1% - the same as in 2008

	2009 £m	2008 £m
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>276.5</b>	<b>343.1</b>
<b>Underlying operating profit</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>34.7</b>
Amortisation of intangibles	(2.7)	(2.4)
Non-recurring items - impairment		(26.7)
Non-recurring items - other	(15.7)	(21.5)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>(15.9)</b>
Net interest cost	(3.3)	(4.1)
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>(20.0)</b>
Tax expense	(4.9)	(0.9)
Discontinued operations		(1.1)
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>(22.0)</b>

# Exchange rate effect

## > POSITIVE EFFECT

The Group benefited from the weakness of Sterling during 2009

Rate to £1	Average rates		Year end rates	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
US dollar (\$)	1.57	1.85	1.60	1.47
Euro (€)	1.12	1.26	1.11	1.05

£m	2009	@2008 exchange rates	exchange difference £	exchange difference %
Revenue	276.5	245.3	32.1	13%
Underlying op. profit	28.0	24.2	3.8	16%
Net debt	83.5	89.3	5.8	7%

1\$¢ difference in average rates would have affected 2009 revenue by £500k and profit by £50k

1€¢ difference in average rates would have affected 2009 revenue by £1,400k and profit by £170k

# Exchange adjusted revenue

## > WEAK STERLING

Exchange had a positive effect on the Group's results in 2009

£m	2009 revenue	@2008 exchange rates	2008 revenue	organic growth %
Proudfoot	71.2	62.2	107.0	-42%
Ineum	142.2	127.6	153.1	-17%
KSA	63.1	55.5	83.0	-33%
<b>Total MCG</b>	<b>276.5</b>	<b>245.3</b>	<b>343.1</b>	<b>-28%</b>

# Performance by division

## > POSITIVE TRENDS

The divisions showed renewed strength towards the end of 2009

	Revenue		Operating profit		Operating margin	
	2009 £m	2008 £m	2009 £m	2008 £m	2009 %	2008 %
Proudfoot	71.2	107.0	12.0	18.1	16.9	16.9
Ineum	142.2	153.1	12.5	9.9	8.8	6.5
KSA	63.1	83.0	3.5	6.7	5.5	8.1
<b>Total MCG</b>	<b>276.5</b>	<b>343.1</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>10.1</b>

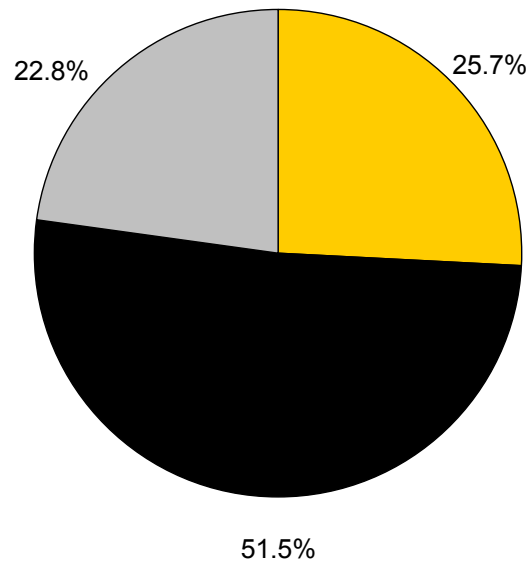
# Revenue by division

## > GOOD SPREAD

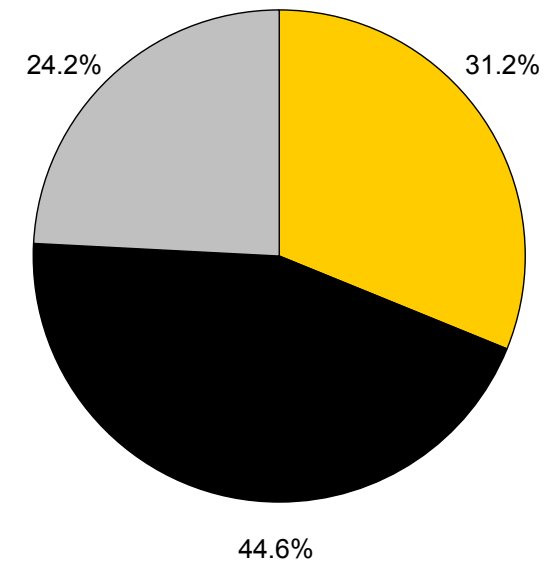
The Group has three divisions of good size, well diversified by industry

■ Proudfoot  
■ Ineum  
■ KSA

2009



2008



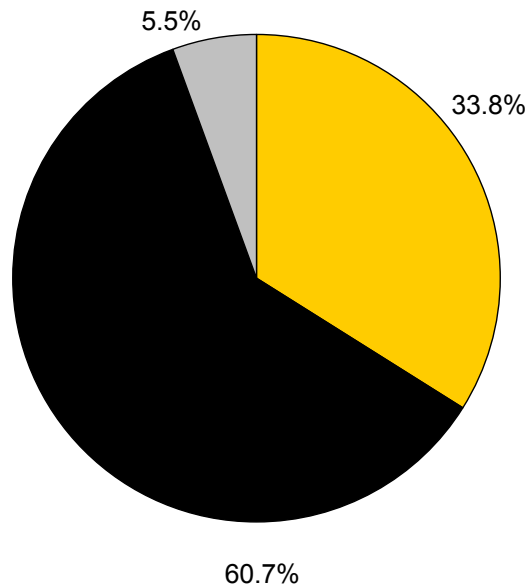
# Revenue by geography

## > GLOBAL BUSINESS

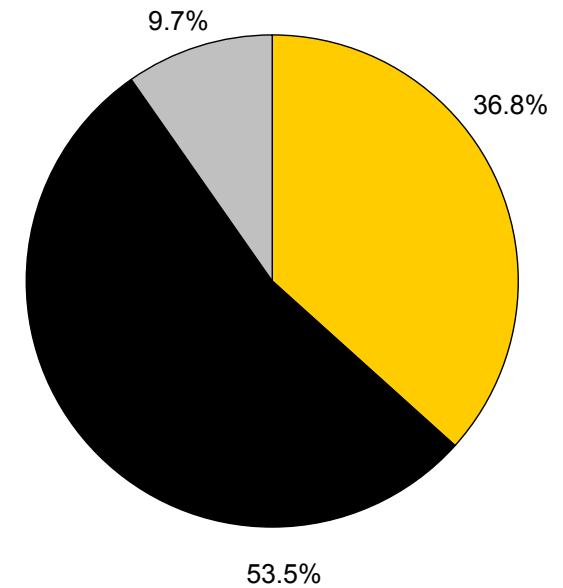
The Group is present in all important markets across the globe

■ Americas  
■ Europe  
■ RoW

2009



2008



# Non-recurring items

## > MANAGEMENT ACTION

The Group took decisive action to mitigate the challenging market conditions

	2009 £m	2008 £m
Acquisition integration		2.3
General meeting/CEO		2.5
Withdrawal from China		2.4
Property rationalisation	3.6	3.1
Parson restructuring/closure	2.0	1.8
Proudfoot Australia closure	1.3	
Ineum project fees	1.4	
Executive director severance	1.1	
Other	6.3	9.4
<b>Total MCG</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>21.5</b>

# Underlying tax rate

## > STEADY RATE

The Group made the majority of its profits in the US and France

	2009		2008	
	Profit £m	Tax £m	Profit £m	Tax £m
<b>Declared profit before tax</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>(4.9)</b>	<b>(20.0)</b>	<b>(0.9)</b>
Impairment of goodwill			26.7	(4.7)
Other non-recurring items	15.7	(3.4)	21.5	(4.6)
Amortisation of intangibles	2.7		2.4	
<b>Adjusted profit before tax</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>(8.3)</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>(10.2)</b>
<b>Underlying tax rate</b>		<b>34%</b>		<b>33%</b>



# Earnings per share

## > CHALLENGING YEAR

Basic EPS became positive but underlying EPS was affected by the shortfall in profit

	2009		2008	
	£m	pence	£m	pence
<b>Profit for the period</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>(22.0)</b>	<b>(6.4)</b>
Impairment of intangibles			26.7	
Tax credit on impairment			(4.7)	
Non-recurring items	15.7		21.5	
Tax credit on non-recurring	(3.4)		(4.6)	
Discontinued operations			1.1	
Amortisation of intangibles	2.7		2.4	
<b>Underlying earnings</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>6.2</b>

# Net assets

## > EXCHANGE EFFECT

The vast majority of the Group's assets are held in currencies other than Sterling

	2009 £m	2008 £m
Intangible assets	286.7	315.0
Tangible assets	4.5	5.1
Deferred tax asset	17.9	21.9
Trade and other receivables	76.3	90.2
Cash and cash equivalents	24.0	35.8
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>409.4</b>	<b>468.0</b>
Borrowings	(107.5)	(97.9)
Other payables	(127.1)	(174.8)
Retirement benefit obligation	(23.3)	(20.9)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>(257.9)</b>	<b>(293.6)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>151.5</b>	<b>174.4</b>

# Cash flow and debt

## > INCREASED NET DEBT

Revenue shortfall was mitigated by reduction in costs with lower relative cash effect

	2009 £m	2008 £m
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>(15.9)</b>
Depreciation/amortisation/impairment	5.1	31.7
Other non-cash items	(0.3)	(2.0)
(+)/- net working capital	(27.9)	27.4
<b>Cash (absorbed)/generated by operations</b>	<b>(13.5)</b>	<b>41.2</b>
Reclassification from investments	3.8	
Capital expenditure	(2.5)	(2.5)
Interest paid	(3.4)	(3.9)
Taxes paid	(5.0)	(0.5)
Dividends paid	(4.2)	(4.0)
Exchange difference	3.4	(31.5)
<b>(+)/- in net debt</b>	<b>(21.4)</b>	<b>(1.2)</b>
<b>Net debt at beginning of year</b>	<b>(62.1)</b>	<b>(60.9)</b>
<b>Net debt at end of year</b>	<b>(83.5)</b>	<b>(62.1)</b>

# Bank facility

## > FACILITY UNTIL 2012

Good deal with impressive club of banks



- Five-year deal with Barclays, HSBC and Lloyds TSB
  - Negotiated in September 2007
- Term loan \$50.6m and €37.0m; revolver \$60.7m and €44.5m
  - Term loan \$48.1m and €35.2m after December 2009 repayment
  - Facility worth £139.8m at year-end 2009 exchange rates
- Repayment schedule:
  - December 2010: \$5.1m and €3.7m
  - December 2011: \$10.2m and €7.4m
  - September 2012: \$32.8m and €24.1m
- Margin will be 1.5% throughout 2010
- Two covenants
  - Interest cover must be >4 times
  - Net debt/EBITDA must be <2.75 times

# Covenant compliance

## > TWO COVENANTS

The Group remained covenant compliant at each testing date in 2009

	Dec 2009	June 2009	Dec 2008
	£m	£m	£m
Net debt	83.5	79.9	62.1
Annualised EBITDA	31.8	37.3	38.8
<b>Net debt / EBITDA ratio</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Annualised EBITDA	31.8	37.3	38.8
Annualised interest cost	2.5	2.6	4.2
<b>Interest cover ratio</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>9.2</b>

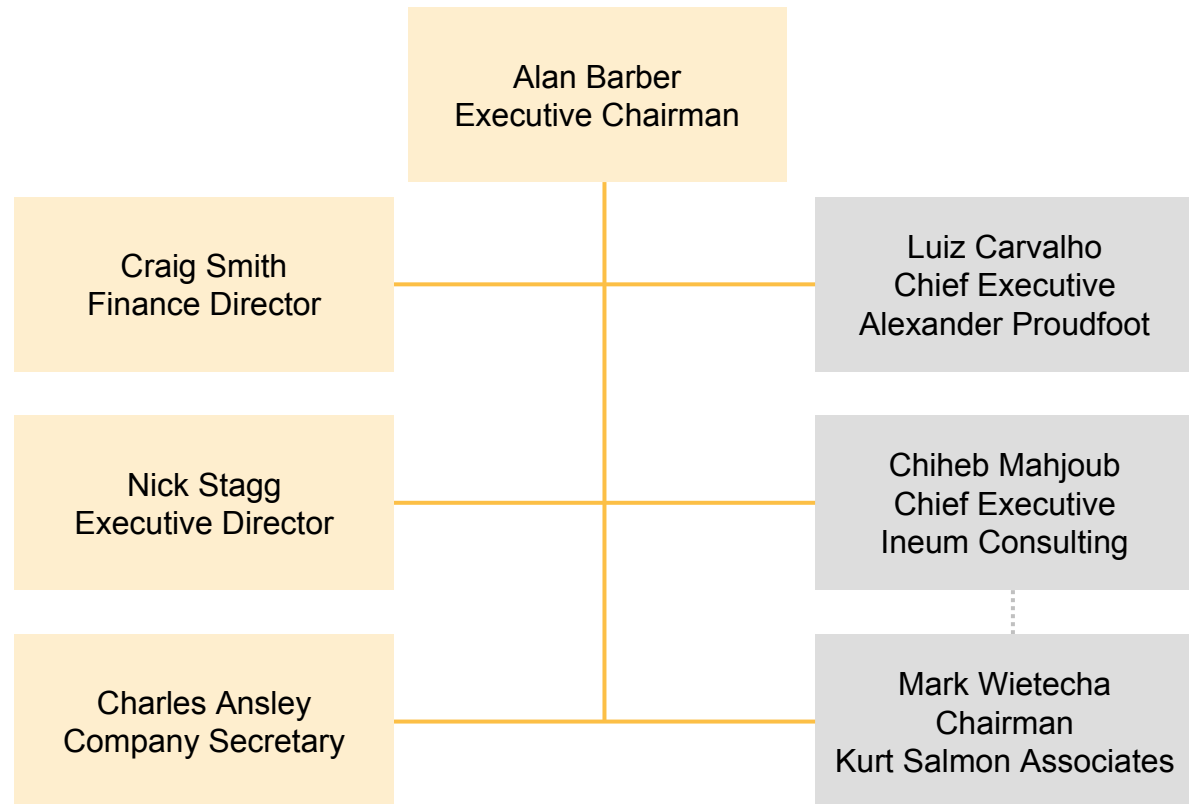


# Divisional performance

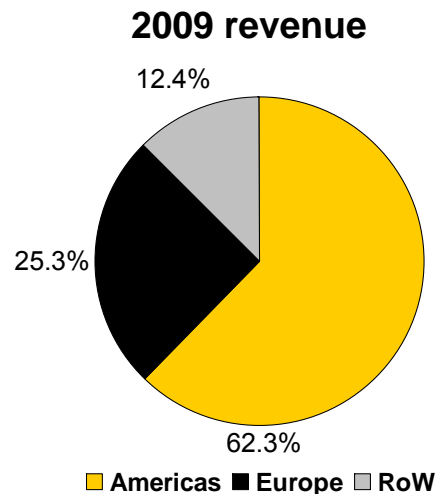
# Organisational structure

## > THREE TRADING DIVISIONS

Closer integration developing between Ineum and KSA



# Alexander Proudfoot



- Operational improvement business
  - Revenue / productivity increase and cost reduction
  - Works across all industries – mining, manufacturing, insurance
- Established in Chicago in 1946
- Listed in London in 1987
- Headquartered in Atlanta
  - Offices in North America, Europe, South Africa and Brazil
- Direct sell, mainly to CEOs
  - Average project size around £2m
  - Order book visibility generally 4-6 months
  - 270 employees
- Major competitors include Celerant, Highland Group and AT Kearney

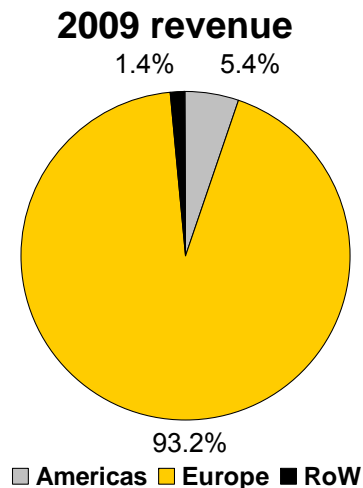


# Alexander Proudfoot



	2009 £m	2008 £m
Revenue	71.2	107.0
Op. profit	12.0	18.1
Op. margin %	16.9%	16.9%
Employees	270	480

- H1 benefited from strong order book carried forward from 2008
- Slow order intake throughout 2009 as clients adopted 'wait and see' attitude
- H2 revenue adversely affected by client behaviour
- Bright spot was Africa which diversified away from mining into insurance and health care during 2009
- Management restructured during 2009 to focus on the selling function
- Benefits of new management seen in Europe in late 2009 and in the US in early 2010
- Low order book carried forward into 2010 but early signs encouraging for recovery



- Management consultancy business
  - Strategy, process improvement, systems design
  - Provides industry specific services to both private and public sectors
- Established in Paris in 2003
- Acquired by MCG in 2006
- Headquartered in Paris
  - Offices in Continental Europe, UK, US, North Africa and Australia
- Relationship sell throughout client
  - Average project size around £300k
  - Order book visibility generally 2-4 months (public sector can be longer)
  - 960 employees
- Major competitors include Accenture, Oliver Wyman and AT Kearney

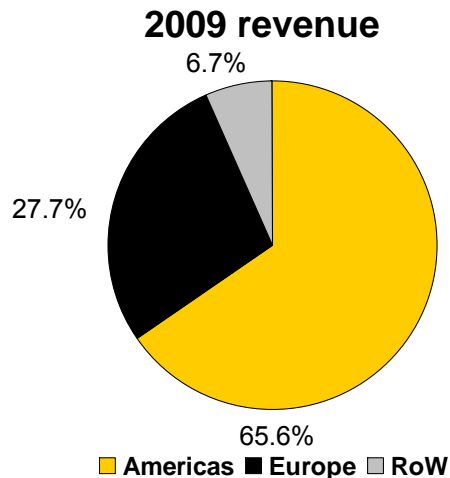
# Ineum Consulting



	2009 £m	2008 £m
Revenue	142.2	153.1
Op. profit	12.5	9.9
Op. margin %	8.8%	6.5%
Employees	960	1,110

- Business performed resiliently in difficult trading conditions
- Strongest performance in heartland of France where strong public sector compensated for slightly weaker demand in private sector
- Trading outside France more subdued due to stronger reliance on financial service industry
- Legacy Parson US business closed
- Offers received for Ineum Consulting during year ultimately rejected by the MCG Board
- New Chief Executive appointed in November 2009
- Ineum Consulting now moving towards integration with KSA

# Kurt Salmon Associates



- Management consultancy business
  - Strategy, process improvement, systems design
  - Provides services to consumer products and health care industries
- Established in Chicago in 1937
- Acquired by MCG in 2007
- Headquartered in Atlanta
  - Offices in North America, Europe, and Japan
- Relationship sell throughout client
  - Average project size around £300k
  - Order book visibility generally 2-4 months
  - 390 employees
- Major competitors include McKinsey, Bain and Booz Allen

# Kurt Salmon Associates



	2009 £m	2008 £m
Revenue	63.1	83.0
Op. profit	3.5	6.7
Op. margin %	5.5%	8.1%
Employees	390	520

- H1 characterised by weak demand, particularly in US
- Consumer products clients continued to worry about cash flows
- Health care clients adversely affected by squeeze on credit availability
- H2 saw return to profit as management actions took effect and market conditions improved
- Consumer products saw increased demand towards the end of 2009, particularly in Europe which had strong Q4
- Health care practice refocused more towards strategy and IT projects, with encouraging results
- KSA now moving towards integration with Ineum Consulting



# Prospects

# Prospects

## > EASING ECONOMY

MCG is well positioned to take advantage of the economic upturn as it arises

- Economic climate has eased since late 2009
- We look forward to better trading conditions in 2010
- Alexander Proudfoot entered 2010 with low order book
  - Much stronger prospects for input during 2010
  - But H1 revenue will be low
- Ineum continues to trade robustly across the division
- KSA improvement has been maintained into 2010
- Ineum and KSA now moving towards integration
- Following strong management action in 2008 and 2009, MCG is well positioned to take advantage of the economic upturn as it arises