WRITTLE HOLDINGS LIMITED



# INTERIM REPORT 2025



# CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to report on our performance for the first half of 2025.

The momentum seen in the second half of 2024 continued into this year contributing to a near 20% growth in turnover and 90% increase in headline profit over the prior period. Arken again led the way, but all our businesses performed satisfactorily in a challenging and fast changing economic landscape.

#### Results and Dividends

Turnover for the six months to 30 June 2025 was £44.54m (2024: £37.31m) and headline profit before tax was £2.68m (2024: £1.41m). There were negligible exceptional costs but the usual non-cash deductions for goodwill amortisation and share-based payments, totalling £0.41m, resulted in profit before tax of £2.24m (2024: £0.57m).

Net cash at 30 June 2025 was £7.44m (2024: £4.95m).

An increased interim dividend of 9p (2024: 8p) per share will be paid on 31 October 2025 to shareholders on the register at 3 September 2025.

### **Review of Trading**

The performance of our three business groups is shown on page 8 of this report.

Our Innovation businesses all performed well with turnover collectively up by 11% and profit up by 59%. All four businesses are embracing advancements in Al but continue to put creativity at the heart of their new business drive. There was some slowing of activity towards the end of the half as the threat of US tariffs caused uncertainty which in turn led to some clients pausing their budgets. This has continued into the third quarter for some, but there is a wide portfolio of clients and we expect any lost ground to be made up elsewhere.

Our Implementation business, BRANDED, saw turnover rise by 4% but profits reduce by 14% as we continued to invest in our US cost base in anticipation of increasing volumes which are now coming through. Our creative team was further strengthened in the UK and US in response to client demand and we continue to develop our automation of artworking both in the UK and India. The business enters the second half with confidence.

Our Instore businesses had an excellent first half with turnover up 32% and a more than trebling of profits. Fero bounced back to profitability from a poor comparative period in the prior year and is now well set to benefit from its capital expenditure programme of previous years. Capacity has been increased, and margins are also benefitting. Arken continues to go from strength to strength. Arken's reputation is such that it continues to win work across Continental Europe and now supplies units to new clients in Australia. This reputation has been hard won through years of award-winning design and cost-effective point of purchase engineering solutions for its growing client base, particularly in cosmetics. Arken had an excellent first half performance which is continuing unabated into the second.

# **Corporate Activity**

After terminating discussions with two prospective vendors at the end of last year, we paused any further outreach in the first half to focus on our own businesses. Despite a successful first half we realise that more rapid growth requires acquisition, and we are open to opportunities that present themselves, but we maintain demanding criteria.

#### **Current Trading**

Our second half has started well, and I look forward to another satisfactory year.

#### Robert Essex

Chairman

3 September 2025

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the six months ended 30 June 2025

	6 months to 30 June 2025 Unaudited £000	6 months to 30 June 2024 Unaudited £000	Year ended 31 December 2024 Audited £000
Turnover	44,536	37,308	87,955
Cost of sales	(21,277)	(16,671)	(41,688)
Gross profit	23,259	20,637	46,267
Administrative expenses	(21,106)	(20,099)	(40,862)
Operating profit	2,153	538	5,405
Operating profit before the items listed below	2,587	1,377	7,139
Exceptional items	(26)	(436)	(909)
Share-based payment charge	(56)	(51)	(121)
Goodwill amortisation	(352)	(352)	(704)
Operating profit	2,153	538	5,405
Net interest receivable	89	29	56
Profit before taxation	2,242	567	5,461
Tax on profit	(616)	(429)	(2,005)
Profit after taxation	1,626	138	3,456
Non-controlling interests	(315)	(6)	(437)
Profit for the period	1,311	132	3,019

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2025

	As at 30 June 2025 Unaudited £000	As at 30 June 2024 Unaudited £000	As at 31 December 2024 Audited £000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	4,128	4,870	4,507
Tangible assets	5,708	6,180	5,784
	9,836	11,050	10,291
Current assets			
Stocks	4,679	4,061	1,781
Debtors	20,502	21,396	20,656
Cash at bank and in hand	7,624	6,711	13,714
	32,805	32,168	36,151
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(22,133)	(20,697)	(20,874)
Net current assets	10,672	11,471	15,277
Total assets less current liabilities	20,508	22,521	25,568
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	ar (64)	(188)	(108)
Provisions for liabilities			
Deferred tax	(442)	(47)	(452)
Other provisions	(651)	(651)	(651)
Net assets	19,351	21,635	24,357
Capital and reserves			
Called-up share capital	7,511	7,440	7,445
Share premium account	223	9,293	9,308
Other reserves	(516)	(228)	,
Retained earnings	8,512	2,657	4,492
Equity attributable to owners of the parent company	15,730	19,162	21,087
Non-controlling interests	3,621	2,473	3,270
	19,351	21,635	24,357

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

as at 30 June 2025

	Share capital £000	Share premium £000	Other reserves £000	Retained earnings £000	Equity attributable to owners of parent company £000	Non- controlling interests £000	Total equity £000
At 1 January 2024 Profit for the period	7,417 -	9,222	(279)	3,127 132	19,487 132	3,253	22,740
Other comprehensive income	_	_		4	4	(1)	3
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	136	136	5	141
Contributions by and distributions to owners Dividends Shares issued during the perio	- d 23	- 71	- - -	(1,058)	(1,058) 94	(167)	(1,225) 94
Other movements			51	452	503	(618)	(115)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	23	71	51	(606)	(461)	(785)	(1,246)
At 30 June 2024	7,440	9,293	(228)	2,657	19,162	2,473	21,635
Profit for the period Other comprehensive income	- -	- -	- -	2,887 (8)	2,887 (8)	431 1	3,318 (7)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	_	-	2,879	2,879	432	3,311
Contributions by and distributions to owners Dividends Shares issued during the perio Other movements	- d 5 -	- 15 -	- - 70	(567) - (477)	(567) 20 (407)	(67) - 432	(634) 20 25
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	5	15	70	(1,044)	(954)	365	(589)
At 31 December 2024	7,445	9,308	(158)	4,492	21,087	3,270	24,357
Profit for the period Other comprehensive income	- -	- -	- -	1,311 11	1,311 11	315 -	1,626 11
Total comprehensive income for the period	_	-	-	1,322	1,322	315	1,637
Contributions by and distributions to owners Dividends Shares issued during the perio Other movements	- d 66 -	- 223 (9,308)	- - (358)	(6,458) - 9,156	(6,458) 289 (510)	(289) - 325	(6,747) 289 (185)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	66	(9,085)	(358)	2,698	(6,679)	36	(6,643)
At 30 June 2025	7,511	223	(516)	8,512	15,730	3,621	19,351

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the six months ended 30 June 2025

	6 months to 30 June 2025 Unaudited £000	6 months to 30 June 2024 Unaudited £000	Year ended 31 December 2024 Audited £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the period	1,626	138	3,456
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of goodwill	352	352	704
Amortisation and impairment of software development	27	31	61
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	746	836	1,596
Share-based payment charge	56	51	121
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	_	_	(2)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(2,903)	(2,242)	37
Net interest received	(89)	(29)	(56)
Corporation tax charge	616	429	2,005
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	63	(2,417)	(1,747)
Increase in creditors	2,062	3,011	4,195
Corporation tax paid	(1,217)	(102)	(847)
Net cash generated from operating activities	1,339	58	9,523
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(666)	(420)	(790)
Investment in software development	_	(17)	(36)
Sale of tangible fixed assets	_	_	6
Sale/(purchase) of equity in subsidiaries	172	(173)	(211)
Net cash used in investing activities	(494)	(610)	(1,031)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Issue of ordinary shares	289	94	114
Movement on invoice financing	-	1,338	-
New finance lease	_	181	181
Repayment of finance leases	(120)	(99)	(216)
Equity dividends paid	(6,458)	(1,058)	(1,625)
Purchase of own shares by ESOT	(414)	_	_
Net interest received	89	29	56
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	(289)	(167)	(234)
Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities	(6,903)	318	(1,724)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(6,058)	(234)	6,768
Exchange differences on translation of foreign subsidia	ries (32)	3	4
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	13,714	6,942	6,942
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	7,624	6,711	13,714
Cash and cash equivalents	7,624	6,711	13,714

# ANALYSIS OF NET CASH/(DEBT)

as at 30 June 2025

	As at 30 June 2025 Unaudited £000	As at 30 June 2024 Unaudited £000	As at 31 December 2024 Audited £000
Cash at bank and in hand	7,624	6,711	13,714
Debt: Finance leases Debts due within one year	(185)	(422) (1,338)	, ,
Net cash	7,439	4,951	13,409

# **BUSINESS GROUP ANALYSIS**

for the six months ended 30 June 2025

	Innovation £000	Implementation £000	Instore £000	Group £000
For the six months ended 30 June 2025	11,664	9,677	23,195	44,536
Headline business group operating profit Central costs	1,080	614	1,689	3,383 (796)
Headline operating profit Net interest receivable				2,587 89
Headline profit before tax				2,676
	Innovation £000	Implementation £000	Instore £000	Group £000
For the six months ended 30 June 2024 Turnover	10,476	9,293	17,539	37,308
Headline business group operating profit Central costs	681	717	547	1,945 (568)
Headline operating profit Net interest receivable				1,377 29
Headline profit before tax				1,406
	Innovation £000	Implementation £000	Instore £000	Group £000
For the year ended 31 December 2024 Turnover	20,523	20,443	46,989	87,955
Headline business group operating profit Central costs	2,229	1,723	4,852	8,804 (1,665)
Headline operating profit Net interest receivable				7,139 56
Headline profit before tax				7,195

Headline measures are defined as being before profit on sale of investments, exceptional items, share-based payment charges and amortisation.

## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

#### **Directors**

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M J Gilmore

G R Harris

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J Richards

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A Wright

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