

The Board proposes to pay a final dividend of 17.0 pence which, combined with the interim dividend of 6.4 pence, gives a total of 23.4 pence (2007: 21.0 pence), an increase of 11%. The dividend will be paid on 26 June 2009 to shareholders on the register on 5 June 2009.

Outlook

The current market conditions continue to be challenging and offer very limited visibility. We have taken, and continue to take, timely actions to reduce operating costs and, should the outlook deteriorate further, we will not hesitate to take additional steps. As a result of the phasing of restructuring costs and their associated benefits, the balance between first and second half year profitability is expected to be materially different from past years. The group is in a strong financial and strategic position and we consider that the actions we are taking are appropriate in the near term whilst retaining in our businesses the resources to support growth as market demand recovers.



John Hughes
Chairman

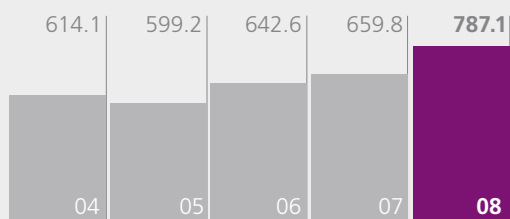
Lasair III

With its larger infrared touchscreen, simpler user interface and quieter operation than competitive instruments, the Lasair III portable particle counter also enables faster detection of particle contamination in cleanrooms, improving productivity for customers in the semiconductor and pharmaceutical industries.

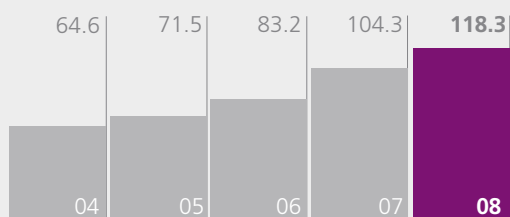


Financial highlights

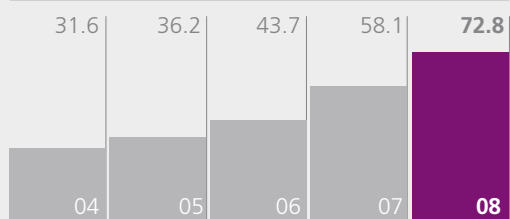
Sales from continuing businesses £m



Adjusted operating profit from continuing businesses £m



Adjusted earnings per share pence



Dividend per share pence

