

# HASTIE GROUP LIMITED AND SPECIFIC SUBSIDIARIES (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ('HASTIE GROUP')

# M & H Air Conditioning Pty Limited (Administrators Appointed) (the 'Company') ACN 115 325 089

Date acquired by Hastie Group: 18 July 2005

**Principal activity:** Design and construction projects for the installation of air

conditioners for domestic and commercial requirements

**Location of operations:** Cardiff, New South Wales

Creditors should consider this Hastie Group company report in conjunction with the body of this report under the following headings:

1. Expected return to creditors

2. Reasons for the Company's failure

3. Offences, voidable transactions and insolvent trading

4. Directors' Report as to Affairs (RATA)

5. Summary of historical financial results

Creditors are also advised to have regard to sections 7 and 8 of the Report for details of directors, registered charges and shareholders, along with the discussion on books and records.

## 1. Expected return to creditors

Based upon investigations to date, we estimate the return to creditors from the realisation of Company assets (excluding any realisations from claims by a liquidator) as:

Banking syndicate	0 - 1 cents in the \$
Security interest holder	-
Employees	25 - 35 cents in the \$
Ordinary unsecured creditors	-

Subject to the outcome of potential litigation (if pursued), the return to certain creditor classes may increase (refer section 7 of the main report).

All or substantially all employee entitlements (excluding superannuation arrears) have now been paid by DEEWR under the GEERS. These amounts are funded directly by DEEWR and not recoveries generated from Company assets. To the extent any return to employees is available, this will be distributed on a pro-rata basis to DEEWR for funds advanced and the ATO for outstanding superannuation.

#### 2. Reasons for the Company's failure

The Administrators' consider the principal reasons for the Company's failure are:

- Poor pre-contract project risk assessment and poor controls over pricing and project management
- Competitive industry conditions resulting in lower margins and generally an inability to secure new work
- The cessation of funding from a related company, Hastie Holdings Pty Ltd.



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# 3. Offences, voidable transactions and insolvent trading

The Administrators' preliminary findings are detailed at Section 7 of the body of this report.

# 4. Directors' Report as to Affairs (RATA)

The directors have not supplied a RATA.

# 5. Summary of historical financial results

The table below includes the Administrators' estimate of the:

- value of the Company's assets and liabilities
- shortfall to the ordinary unsecured creditors.

	Notes	Company reported at 30 April 2012	Administrators' estimate at 28 May 2012	
		Book Value	Realisable Value	
		\$'000	\$'000	
Assets				
Cash on hand	1	-	-	
Trade receivables	2	3,285	Not disclosed	
Inventory	3	241	-	
Work in progress	4	(38)	-	
Prepayments		249	-	
Plant and machinery	5	166	Not disclosed	
Software		24	-	
Goodwill and Intangibles		-	Not disclosed	
Current and deferred tax assets		1,130	-	
		5,057	-	
Liabilities	6			
Secured creditors	7	(14)	(259,914)	
Intercompany loans		(2,302)	(2,302)	
Priority creditors (employees)	8	(289)	(983)	
Ordinary unsecured creditors (inc accruals)		(2,483)	(2,483)	
		(5,088)	(265,682)	
Contingent Liabilities				
Warranties		(6)	(6)	
Bonds/Guarantees	9	-	(270,000)	
Surplus / (deficiency)		(37)	(535,688)	

The above deficiency does not take account of:

- Administrators' or Liquidators' costs. Total Administrators' costs to 31/12/2012 are \$135k.
- Potential recoveries that are only available to a Liquidator to pursue.

## Administrators' comments

- From November 2011, the Company's cash on hand was 'swept' daily into an account of Hastie Holdings Pty Ltd which performed the treasury function for the Australian trading operations. Given this, the swept balance has been included in the intercompany balance. Upon appointment, the Receivers placed a 'debit freeze' on the account pursuant to its security.
- 2. Some receivables have lodged offsetting claims against the Company. The total of receivable recovered to 31/12/2012 is \$357k.
- 3. Likely to be unrecoverable; the majority of inventory being on building sites beyond the Administrators' control.
- 4. Billed in advance and as such recoveries are not expected.



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- 5. As part of the sale completed 1 June 2012, plant and machinery (including motor vehicles) was sold. Details of the transaction have been withheld from this report as the terms are confidential.
- The Company has entered into a deed of cross guarantee with Hastie Group Ltd pursuant to ASIC Class Order 98/1418.
- 7. The Company is a co-guarantor to the Banking Syndicate's facilities of \$260m. This debt is secured by the Company's assets and assets of various related companies.
- 8. The \$694k increase represents redundancy costs and an adjustment to other entitlements underprovided by the Company.
- 9. The Company is a co-guarantor to the Banking Syndicate's Performance Guarantee and Financial Guarantee issuance facilities of \$270m secured by the Company's assets and assets of various related companies.

		Notes	2009	2010	2011	30-Apr-12
			\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s	\$'000s
Sales		1	25,655	39,387	34,204	18,574
Expenses: Cost of sales			(21,793)	(35,350)	(34,405)	(16,958)
Gross Profit			3,862	4,037	(201)	1,616
GM%		2	15.1%	10.2%	-0.6%	8.7%
Other operating expenses		3	(2,680)	(4,057)	(4,039)	(3,982)
Other Significant items		4	-	-	-	(12,561)
EBITDA	Α		1,182	(20)	(4,240)	(14,927)
Net Assets	В		5,334	15,892	14,425	(37)
Working capital	С		1,423	4,759	2,209	1,005
Current Assets / Current Liabilities		5	0.547	1.221	1.135	0.965
Net cash inflow / (outflow)	D		1,066	512	(909)	353

<sup>\*</sup> Financial results reported above are prior to intra-company consolidation adjustments.

## Key

- A. Earnings before interest, depreciation & amortisation and after any significant items.
- B. Surplus / (deficit) of total assets less total liabilities.
- C. The sum of trade receivables and inventories (inclusive of WIP) less any trade payables.
- D. The change in available cash at bank or notional cash over the relevant period.

#### Administrators' comments

- 1. The reduction in revenue at 30/04/2012 reflects a reduction in new work 'won' in FY12 due to increased competition and other factors. The Company had sought to exit from this business in FY13.
- 2. Variances in profit margins indicate a lack of appropriate costing and management protocols as well as the impact of competition across the construction industry.
- 3. Many of these costs were replicated within Hastie Holdings Pty Ltd which provided the administration function to the Company and other Hastie Group (operating) companies. The Company also maintained its own administration function, the costs for which are incorporated in 'Other operating expenses'.
- 4. Other significant items include a goodwill impairment of \$12.6m which reduced goodwill to nil. This impairment is reflective of the loss making operations of the Company in FY11 and FY12.
- 5. A 'Working Capital' ratio of less than one indicates that the Company was operating with financial stress. This was however mitigated by funding provided by Hastie Holdings Pty Ltd.