

### Investment update

## **UK Equity Research**

### 20 December 2006

# Independent International Investment Research \* (IIR)

### Speciality Retailers

Previous close price (p):

8 8

Market cap (£m):

2.2

FTSE index:

AIM

52 week high (p):

11.8

52 week low (p):

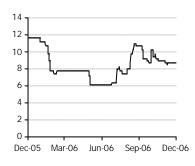
6.1

Net debt 2006 (£m)

0.0

Reason for report Trading Update

#### Share price performance (p):



### Trading update

Year to 28 Feb (£'000s)	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Turnover	683	914	1,089	2,092
EBITDA	(123)	(104)	15	745
Pretax profit IdB	(293)	(207)	(33)	711
IdB EPS (p)	(1.9)	(1.0)	(0.1)	2.2
Growth rate (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
DPS (p)	-	-	-	-
P/E (x)	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.9
Yield (%)	-	-	-	-

Source: Insinger de Beaufort, IdB profit before goodwill and exceptionals

#### Upbeat trading statement

IIR announced a positive trading update this morning. The total value of contracted business has increased substantially since the interims in October this year. As a result, management expect to exceed our 2008 revenue forecasts on contracted business alone. Although impact for the current year to Feb 2007 will be limited, high operational gearing translates to a significant earnings uplift for 2008.

#### Currency movements a negative

Our revenue upgrade is muted to some degree in Sterling terms by currency movements. The US dollar has declined by 4% against Sterling over the last 2 months, while the Indian Rupee has depreciated by 3%. The majority of the Group's revenue is denominated in US dollars, whereas costs are largely in sterling or Indian Rupees. IIR's currency exposure is not hedged.

#### Pronet currency service making progress

Despite a slower than hoped for start, the Pronet FX currency advisory has been sold to two major Chinese domestic institutions in the Peoples' Republic of China. Our forecasts currently assume only a small revenue contribution from Pronet.

Source: Insinger de Beaufort, Bloomberg

#### **Analyst**

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#### Valuation remains attractive

We lift our 2008 EBITDA forecast by 210% to £745k, while pretax profit rises by 280% to £692k and EPS moves up 261% to 2.2p. Our 2007 forecasts remain unchanged. On our upgraded forecasts, IIR trades at what we would regard as a anomalous 83% discount to research-oriented peers, including Datamonitor, TNS and Toluna. The business remains small, but is building scale quickly.

<sup>\*</sup> Insinger de Beaufort are nominated advisors and brokers to the Company



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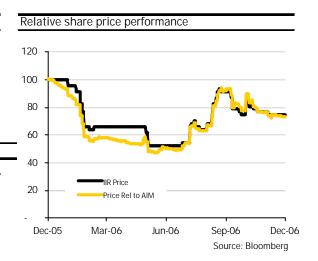
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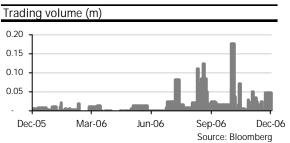
#### Independent International Investment Research

IIR provides research on global companies and currencies for broker-dealers, investment banks, money managers and private clients world-wide. Pronet Analytics is the Group's currency research firm, whilst Independent Financial Markets Research offers a US-based research service on non-US companies (primarily those with ADRs).

Profit & Loss forecasts				
Year to 28 Feb (£'000s)	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Turnover	683	914	1,089	2,092
Operating profit	(283)	(194)	(32)	686
Margin (%)	(41)	(21)	(3)	33
EBITDA	(123)	(104)	15	745
Exceptionals	0	0	0	0
Net interest	(10)	(13)	(22)	5
Pretax profit	(293)	(207)	(53)	691
Pretax profit IdB	(293)	(207)	(33)	711
Tax	(10)	0	0	0
Tax rate (%)	(3.4)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Av. No. shares diluted (m)	15.8	19.6	28.9	31.9
EPS (p)	(1.9)	(1.1)	(0.2)	2.7
IdB EPS (p)	(1.9)	(1.0)	(0.1)	2.2
Growth rate (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
DPS (p)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Cash Flow forecasts				
Year to 28 Feb (£'000s)	2005	2006	2007E	2008E
Operating profit	(283)	(194)	(32)	686
Depreciation	160	81	26	39
Amortisation	0	9	20	20
Change in working capital	48	200	(122)	(132)
Other	0	0	0	0
Operating cash flow	(75)	96	(107)	613
Net interest	(10)	(13)	(22)	1
Tax paid	26	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	1
Free Cash Flow (FCF)	(59)	83	(129)	616
Dividends	0	0	0	0
Capex	(11)	(5)	(35)	(80)
Acquisitions	0	(5)	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	1
Equity issued	0	99	0	0
Other	0	0	0	(1)
Increase in funds	(70)	172	(164)	535
Net debt (cash)	(174)	(2)	(166)	370
Shareholders funds	(322)	(30)	(83)	608
Gearing (%)	(54)	(7)	(199)	(61)
Interest cover (x)	(7.5)	7.4	(5.0)	Cash





Other information	<u>%</u>
Current price (p)	8.8
12 month high (p)	11.75
12 month low (p)	6.13
12m average volume	16,120
Market capitalisation (£m)	2.2

Major shareholders	%
Shane Smith (CEO) Roy Nominees Ltd PPMV Nominees Ltd Richard Hutchinson (FD) K Moody Squaregain	65.4% 5.7% 5.9% 5.8% 3.5% 2.5%
Previous results Interims	24-Sep-06

24-Jul-07

Source: Insinger de Beaufort, IdB EPS and Pretax profit calculated before exceptional charges and goodwill, Argus Vickers

Next results
Prelims (estimate)

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