

Financial summary



More information on all the case studies in this report may be accessed at:

www.atkinsglobal.com/annualreport/casestudies

	2003 £m	2002 £m
Turnover	935.3	806.3
Adjusted profit from operations ⁽¹⁾	18.7	38.1
PFI/PPP bid costs ⁽²⁾	(13.1)	(8.9)
Exceptional items before tax ⁽³⁾	(64.5)	(6.1)
(Loss)/profit before tax	(61.6)	20.9
Net debt ⁽⁴⁾	(71.9)	(57.2)
Dividend per share	3.0p	11.3p

⁽¹⁾ Before Metronet bid costs, amortisation of pension surplus and goodwill, exceptional items and Employee Benefit Trusts. 2002 figures have been adjusted to be comparable.

⁽²⁾ Includes £8.4m (2002: £3.8m) Metronet bid costs.

⁽³⁾ Includes cost reduction programme and other reorganisation and restructuring charges, impairment of assets and write down in carrying value of own shares held in Employee Benefit Trusts.

⁽⁴⁾ Net debt excludes cash held by the Employee Benefit Trusts and cash held on behalf of sub-contractors.

2003 Results

This has been a challenging year for Atkins. Last year's introduction of our new finance and HR systems caused significant disruption to the business, with an adverse impact on the level of both overheads and net debt during the first half of the year. However underlying operational performance remained robust and we continued to retain and win work from our key customers throughout the period.

During the second half of the year the problems with our systems were addressed and a cost reduction programme was implemented to manage overheads. The Group was re-financed and rigorous debt management processes implemented. The basis for improved financial performance is now in place.

Prospects

The prospects for the coming year are good. Our forward order book is strong and the conclusion in April 2003 of the Metronet consortium's contracts to manage the major proportion of the London Underground has initiated a significant volume of new work.