RNS Number: 44710 Latham(James) PLC 26 June 2025

James Latham plc

("James Latham" or "the Company")

Preliminary Results

Chairman's statement

I am very pleased to report good trading results for the financial year to 31 March 2025.

The financial year to 31 March 2025 was a year that started off with challenging market conditions, but one where we were expecting market conditions to improve during the second half of this financial year. However, we did not see the expected improvement until the final quarter. Product values were stable for the first half of the year, but we saw some weakness in our commodity products in the second half of the year. During the second half of the year we saw a significant competitor go into administration which caused some short term pressure on margins in some products groups as they quickly turned their stock into cash.

Global supply chains have been much easier this year, although container rates did fluctuate quite dramatically during the course of the year. Due to the market conditions, we did see a continuing trend of a shift in product mix to some lower value products as customers looked to purchase cheaper and more cost effective products.

Despite all these challenges, these positive results are a further demonstration of the ability of the business to make the most of any market conditions and turn them into opportunities.

Revenue for the financial year to 31 March 2025 was £366.6m, up slightly on last year's £366.5m. Like for like volumes taking into account working days and acquisitions, increased by 2.2%, with growth of 2.4% on delivered business from our own warehouses. The cost price of our products is on average 3.5% higher (2024: 3.4% lower) than at the start of the financial year. We continue to see a move in the product mix of our sales towards cheaper alternative products. Whilst we have gained market share in these products, the lower price per tonne has resulted in reduced revenues.

Gross profit percentage for the financial year to 31 March 2025 was 16.8% compared with 16.9% in the previous financial year, with product mix and a more competitive environment resulting in margins reducing slightly below our long term average. Despite inflation remaining high, operational overheads have been well controlled. Included within overheads is £2.5m one-off pension charge relating to a change in the definition of pensionable salaries. Despite this, there is still a considerable surplus recorded under IAS19 for the final salary pension scheme.

Profit before tax is £24.3m, compared with last year's £30.3m. Profit after tax for the year is £18.1m compared with last year's £22.7m. Earnings per ordinary share is 90.1p compared with last year's 112.7p.

As at 31 March 2025 net assets have increased to £220.5m(2024: £218.6m). Inventory levels have increased to £65.7m from £61.7m last year. Current trade and other receivables at the year end were £0.6m higher than the previous year with our measure of debtors days unchanged from the previous year. Bad debts have remained small at 0.13% (2024: 0.11%) of revenues. Cash and cash equivalents of £65.5m(2024: £75.9m) remain strong.

Final dividend

The Board has declared a final dividend of 27.3p per Ordinary Share (2024: 26.0p). The dividend is payable on 22 August 2025 to ordinary shareholders on the Company's register at close of business on 1 August 2025. The ex-dividend date will be 31 July 2025. The total dividend per ordinary share of 35.25p for the year (2024: 33.75p) is covered 2.6 times by earnings (2024: 3.3 times), not including the special dividend of 45p per ordinary share which was declared in the previous financial year.

Current and future trading

The gradual trend to improved market conditions that we have seen in the final quarter of this financial year has continued into

the new financial year, with a slight improvement in the trading margin and also our trading volumes. We are not seeing any price weakness in our product portfolio, and our manufacturers have significant cost pressures on raw materials and wages which should lead to some price inflation over the coming financial year. Demand for our solid timber products, which has been

more challenging during this financial year, are showing signs of improvement which we believe will continue.

The majority of our customers are more confident at the moment, with better orders books than at the same period last year.

We are mindful of the geopolitical risks, including the effect that tariffs could have on some of our products which could cause

some unexpected challenges during the course of the current financial year. Container rates have been fluctuating due to

uncertainties with tariffs. The 90 day tariff reprieve has created an increase in short term freight causing prices to increase, but

this could change quite quickly.

Development Strategy

The board are continually focused on developing the business and ensuring that the business is in the best position to make

the most of all the future opportunities that will arise.

The service levels and product range we offer our customers continues to be critical to our future success. Following our

complete end to end review of our supply chain, the outcome was that we should consider investing in a National Distribution

Centre. This facility would enable the business to further improve the service it offers to our customers, increase our product

range and most importantly allow the business to take control of its supply chain so that our customers can rely on the exceptional service that we give. We are currently reviewing the options, and once finalised, this is expected to be a two to

three year project. The consideration of this investment shows our intention to remain market leader in our sector and future

proof the business for many years to come.

During this financial year we implemented a warehouse management system ("WMS") into our Thurrock depot which has been

a huge success. We are currently working on rolling this out through the business over the next few years.

We have purchased our site in Scotland and also invested in more melamine racking to further improve our product range for

our customers. We continue to invest in racking at our sites to maximise the space and increase the product range for our

customers.

We have been through a rebranding process where we now have renamed Dresser Mouldings as Latham Timber

 $Manufacturing, IJK\ are\ now\ James\ Latham\ Ireland\ and\ Abbey\ Woods\ are\ James\ Latham\ Dublin.$

Nick Latham

Chairman

25 June 2025

The information contained within this announcement is deemed by the Company to constitute inside information as stipulated

under the Market Abuse Regulation (EU) No. 596/2014 as it forms part of United Kingdom domestic law by virtue of the

European (Withdrawal) Act 2018

For further information please visit www.lathamtimber.co.uk or contact:

James Lathamplc

Nick Latham, Chairman David Dunmow, Finance Director Tel: 01442 849 100

Tel: 0203 470 0470

JAMES LATHAM PLC

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT For the year to 31 March 2025

	unaudited	audited
	Year to 31 March	Year to 31 March
	2025	2024
	£000	£000
Revenue	366,610	366,514
Cost of sales (including warehouse costs)	(305,162)	(304,415)
Gross profit	61,448	62,099
Selling and distribution costs	(27,407)	(24,225)
Administrative expenses	(13,848)	(11,731)
Operating Profit	20,193	26,143
Finance income	4,435	4,313
Finance costs	(347)	(194)
Profit before tax	24,281	30,262
Tax expense	(6,135)	(7,601)
Profit after tax attributable to owners of the parent company	18,146	22,661
Earnings per ordinary share (basic)	90.1p	112.7p
Earnings per ordinary share (diluted)	89.9p	112.6p

All results relate to continuing operations.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the year to 31 March 2025

	unaudited	Audited
		Restated
	2025	2024
	£000	£000
Profit after tax	18,146	22,661
Other comprehensive income that will not be classified subsequently to profit and loss:		
Actuarial (loss)/gain on defined benefit pension scheme	(382)	5,770
Deferred tax relating to components of other comprehensive		
income	(485)	212
Other comprehensive income that may be classified subsequently to profit and loss:		

Foreign translation charge	(2)	(252)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	(869)	5,730
Total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the		
parent company	17,277	28,391

JAMES LATHAM PLC CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET For the year to 31 March 2025

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 65619

For the year to 31 March 2025		
	unaudited	Audited
	2025	Restated
	2025 £000	2024 £000
Assets	2000	2000
Non-current assets		
Goodwill	1,193	1,193
Other intangible assets	985	1,152
Property, plant and equipment	49,902	39,989
Right-of-use-assets	8,100	8,363
Trade and other receivables	936	789
Retirement and other benefit obligation	13,778	15,864
Total non-current assets	74,894	67,350
Current assets	05.005	04.700
Inventories	65,695	61,709
Trade and other receivables	65,312	64,757
Cash and cash equivalents	69,117	75,881
Tax receivable	436	-
Total current assets	200,560	202,347
Total assets	275,454	269,697
Current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	1,473	1,373
Trade and other payables	35,607	35,456
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	3,629	-
Tax payable	-,	408
Total current liabilities	40,709	37,237
Non-current liabilities		
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	592	592
Lease liabilities	6,915	7,298
Deferred tax liabilities	6,758	5,953
Total non-current liabilities	14,265	13,843
Total liabilities	54,974	51,080
Net assets	220,480	218,617
Capital and reserves	5.040	
Issued capital	5,040	5,040
Share-based payment reserve	450 398	152 398
Capital reserve		
Retained earnings	214,592	213,027
Total equity attributable to shareholders of the	220.490	210 617
parent company	220,480	218,617

JAMES LATHAM PLC CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Attributable to the owners of the parent company

	Issued capital	Share-based payment reserve £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Retained earnings	Total Equity £'000
	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Balance at 1 April 2023 - audited	5,040	124	398	190,013	195,575

Prior period adjustment	-	-	-	1,733	1,733
Restated balance at 1 April 2023	5,040	124	398	191,746	197,308
Profit for the year	-	-	-	22,661	22,661
Other comprehensive income: Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension	-	-	-	5,770	5,770
scheme Deferred tax relating to components of other comprehensive income (restated) Foreign translation charge	-	-	-	212 (252)	212 (252)
Total comprehensive income for the year				28,391	28,391
Transactions with owners:	-	-	_	20,391	20,391
Dividends	-	-	-	(7,348)	(7,348)
Exercise of options	-	(32)	-	32	-
Deferred tax on share options	-	(20)	-	-	(20)
Own shares movement	-	-	-	206	206
Share-based payment expense	-	80	-	-	80
Total transactions with owners	-	28	-	(7,110)	(7,082)
Balance at 31 March 2024 - audited (restated)	5,040	152	398	213,027	218,617
Profit for the year	-	-	-	18,146	22,661
Other comprehensive income:					
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension scheme	-	-	-	(382)	(382)
Deferred tax relating to components of other comprehensive income	-	-	-	(485)	(485)
Foreign translation charge	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	17,277	17,277
Transactions with owners:					
Dividends	-	-	-	(15,880)	(15,880)
Exercise of options	-	(6)	-	6	-
Deferred tax on share options	-	(1)	-	-	(1)
Own shares movement	-	-	-	162	162
Share-based payment expense	-	305	-	-	305
Total transactions with owners	-	298	-	(15,712)	(15,414)
Balance at 31 March 2025 - unaudited	5,040	450	398	214,592	220,480

JAMES LATHAM PLC CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the year to 31 March 2025

•	unaudited	audited
	2025	2024
	£000	£000
Net cash flow from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	23,724	29,563
Interest paid	(46)	(48)
Income tax paid	(6,659)	(5,943)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	17,019	23,572
		_
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest received and similar income	3,442	3,560
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(13,464)	(5,595)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and	225	67
equipment		
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(9,797)	(1,968)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Purchase of treasury shares	-	(6)
Exercise of share options	162	212
Lease liability payments	(1,897)	(1,190)
Equity dividends paid	(15,880)	(7,348)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	(17,615)	(8,332)

(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash		
equivalents for the year	(10,393)	13,272
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of		
the year	75,881	62,609
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	65,488	75,881

JAMES LATHAM PLC

Notes to the unaudited preliminary financial information

- The preliminary financial information presented in this report is unaudited and has been prepared in accordance
 with the recognition and measurement principles of UK adopted International Accounting Standards in conformity
 with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 set out in the Group accounts for the years ended 31 March
 2024 and 31 March 2025, and does not contain all the information to be disclosed in financial statements
 prepared in accordance with IFRS.
- 2. The directors propose a final dividend of 27.3p per ordinary share, which will absorb £5,499,000 (2024: 26.0 plus a special dividend of 45.0p absorbing £14,314,000), payable on 22 August 2025 to shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 1 August 2025. The ex-dividend date is 31 July 2025.
- 3. The figures for the year ended 31 March 2025 are unaudited. The figures relating to 31 March 2024 have been extracted from the statutory accounts for that year, and restated for a prior year adjustment relating to deferred taxation on the final salary pension scheme surplus. The statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 have yet to be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and have been prepared in accordance with UK-adopted International Accounting Standards. The preliminary financial information does not constitute statutory accounts within the meaning of Section 434 of the Companies Act 2006, and does not contain all the information required to be disclosed in a full set of IFRS financial statements.

Statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and sent to Shareholders in due course. The Annual Report and Accounts may also be viewed in due course on James Latham plc's website at www.lathamtimber.co.uk

Statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The auditor's report on those accounts was unqualified and did not include reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying the report and did not contain a statement under section 498(2) and (3) of the Companies Act 2006.

- 4. This announcement was approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 25 June 2025.
- 5. Net cash flow from operating activities

	Year to 31	Year to 31
	March 2025	March 2024
	unaudited	audited
	£000	£000
Profit before tax	24,281	30,262
Adjustment for finance income and cost	(4,088)	(4, 119)
Depreciation and amortisation	5,524	4,271
(Profit)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(454)	35
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(3,986)	5,780
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	(702)	1,236
Încrease/(decrease) in payables	`147	(5,862)
Net defined benefit cost recognised in income statement	2,845	387
Cash funding of defined benefit scheme	(148)	(2,507)
Share-based payments non cash amounts	305	80
Cash generated from operations	23,724	29,563

6. Earnings per ordinary share is calculated by dividing the net profit for the period attributable to ordinary shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period.

	Year to 31 March 2025 unaudited £000	Year to 31 March 2024 audited £000
Net profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	18,146	22,661
	Number '000	Number '000
Weighted average share capital Add: diluted effect of share capital options issued	20,129 46	20,112 14
Weighted average share capital for diluted earnings per ordinary share calculation	20,175	20,126

7. The Annual General Meeting of James Latham plc will be held at the Leverstock Suite, Holiday Inn, Breakspear Way, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 4UA on Wednesday 20 August 2025 at 9.00am.

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