

THE GENERAL SOFT DRINKS COMPANY LIMITED

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements
31 December 2009

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Directors' report

The directors present their report and the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009.

Principal activities

The group's principal activity, which is unchanged since last year, is the bottling of soft drinks, mineral water and other beverages.

Review of the business

The group's level of business remains at sustained levels and its financial position is satisfactory. The directors expect that the present level of activity will be sustained for the foreseeable future.

Results and dividends

The consolidated financial results are set out on page 7. The directors have proposed and paid a final net dividend of €465,000 (2008: €465,875).

Directors

The directors of the company who held office during the year were:

Brian R. Mizzi
Maurice F. Mizzi
Ian J. Mizzi

The company's Articles of Association do not require any directors to retire.

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution for their re-appointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the board



Brian R. Mizzi
Director



Maurice F. Mizzi
Director

Registered office
Marsa Industrial Estate
Marsa
Malta

30 April 2010

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are required by the Companies Act, 1995 to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the parent company as at the end of each reporting period and of the profit or loss for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for:

- ensuring that the financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU;
- selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies;
- making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances;
- ensuring that the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and the parent company will continue in business as a going concern.

The directors are also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and the fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and that comply with the Companies Act, 1995. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and the parent company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The financial statements of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited for the year ended 31 December 2009 are included in the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2009, which is published in hard-copy printed form and made available on the company's website. The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Annual Report on the website in view of their responsibility for the controls over, and the security of, the website. Access to information published on the company's website is available in other countries and jurisdictions, where legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from requirements or practice in Malta.

Independent auditor's report

To the Shareholders of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the consolidated and the stand-alone parent company financial statements of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited (together the "financial statements") on pages 5 to 38 which comprise the consolidated and parent company statements of financial position as at 31 December 2009, the consolidated and parent company statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and the requirements of the Maltese Companies Act, 1995. As described in the statement of directors' responsibilities on page 2, this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the group and the parent company as at 31 December 2009, and of the group's and the parent company's financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the EU; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Maltese Companies Act, 1995.

Independent auditor's report - continued

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We also have responsibilities under the Maltese Companies Act, 1995 to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements.
- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or that returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us.
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
- Certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made in the financial statements, giving the required particulars in our report.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 

167 Merchants Street
Valletta
Malta



Fabio Axisa
Partner

30 April 2010

Statements of financial position

	Notes	As at 31 December			
		2009		2008	
		Group	€	Company	€
ASSETS					
Non-current assets					
Property, plant and equipment	4	26,530,712	27,533,434	25,233,277	26,009,355
Investments in subsidiary	5	-	-	1,162	1,162
Trade and other receivables	7	491,408	915,838	491,408	915,838
Total non-current assets		27,022,120	28,449,272	25,725,847	26,926,355
Current assets					
Inventories	8	2,482,562	3,162,540	2,168,226	2,819,648
Trade and other receivables	7	9,901,888	17,292,354	9,901,888	17,306,066
Cash and cash equivalents	9	325,889	321,010	325,889	321,010
Total current assets		12,710,339	20,775,904	12,396,003	20,446,724
Total assets		39,732,459	49,225,176	38,121,850	47,373,079

Statements of financial position - continued

	Notes	As at 31 December			
		2009	2008	2009	2008
		Group €	€	Company €	€
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES					
Capital and reserves					
Share capital	10	116,469	116,469	116,469	116,469
Retained earnings		20,360,040	18,802,121	18,681,739	17,194,341
Total equity		20,476,509	18,918,590	18,798,208	17,310,810
Non-current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	12	600,000	300,000	600,000	300,000
Borrowings	13	12,857,821	20,967,652	12,857,821	20,967,652
Total non-current liabilities		13,457,821	21,267,652	13,457,821	21,267,652
Current liabilities					
Trade and other payables	12	4,058,607	5,773,856	4,145,543	5,561,766
Current tax liabilities		6,724	111,724	6,724	111,724
Borrowings	13	1,732,798	3,153,354	1,713,554	3,121,127
Total current liabilities		5,798,129	9,038,934	5,865,821	8,794,617
Total liabilities		19,255,950	30,306,586	19,323,642	30,062,269
Total equity and liabilities		39,732,459	49,225,176	38,121,850	47,373,079

The notes on pages 11 to 38 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 5 to 38 were authorised for issue by the board on 30 April 2010 and were signed on its behalf by:



Brian R. Mizzi
Director



Maurice F. Mizzi
Director

Statements of comprehensive income

	Notes	Year ended 31 December			
		2009 Group €	2008 €	2009 Company €	2008 €
Revenue	14	23,214,981	23,799,485	23,214,981	23,799,485
Cost of sales		(12,866,387)	(13,819,542)	(12,962,754)	(14,088,649)
Gross profit		10,348,594	9,979,943	10,252,227	9,710,836
Distribution and selling costs		(5,503,801)	(5,936,882)	(5,503,801)	(5,936,882)
Administrative expenses		(1,983,690)	(1,976,388)	(1,960,093)	(1,950,655)
Other operating income	17	85,718	572,297	85,718	572,297
Operating profit		2,946,821	2,638,970	2,874,051	2,395,596
Finance income	18	-	336	-	90
Finance costs	19	(923,902)	(983,331)	(921,653)	(980,889)
Profit before tax		2,022,919	1,655,975	1,952,398	1,414,797
Tax expense	20	-	(105,000)	-	(105,000)
Profit for the year		2,022,919	1,550,975	1,952,398	1,309,797
- total comprehensive income		2,022,919	1,550,975	1,952,398	1,309,797
Earnings per share	22	40.46	31.02		

The notes on pages 11 to 38 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Statements of changes in equity

Group

	Note	Share capital €	Retained earnings €	Total €
Balance at 1 January 2008		116,469	17,717,021	17,833,490
Comprehensive income				
Profit for the year				
- total comprehensive income		-	1,550,975	1,550,975
Transactions with owners				
Dividends relating to 2008	23	-	(465,875)	(465,875)
Balance at 31 December 2008		116,469	18,802,121	18,918,590
Comprehensive income				
Profit for the year				
- total comprehensive income		-	2,022,919	2,022,919
Transactions with owners				
Dividends relating to 2009	23	-	(465,000)	(465,000)
Balance at 31 December 2009		116,469	20,360,040	20,476,509

Statements of changes in equity - continued

Company

	Note	Share capital €	Retained earnings €	Total €
Balance at 1 January 2008		116,469	16,350,419	16,466,888
Comprehensive income				
Profit for the year				
- total comprehensive income		-	1,309,797	1,309,797
Transactions with owners				
Dividends relating to 2008	23	-	(465,875)	(465,875)
Balance at 31 December 2008		116,469	17,194,341	17,310,810
Comprehensive income				
Profit for the year				
- total comprehensive income		-	1,952,398	1,952,398
Transactions with owners				
Dividends relating to 2009	23	-	(465,000)	(465,000)
Balance at 31 December 2009		116,469	18,681,739	18,798,208

The notes on pages 11 to 38 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Statements of cash flows

	Notes	Year ended 31 December			
		2009		2008	
		Group	€	Company	€
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	24	12,751,049	3,051,421	12,735,817	1,922,691
Interest received		-	336	-	90
Interest paid		(923,902)	(983,331)	(921,653)	(980,889)
Tax paid		(105,000)	(12)	(105,000)	(12)
Net cash generated from operating activities		11,722,147	2,068,414	11,709,164	941,880
Cash flows from investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	4	(1,768,449)	(13,811,962)	(1,768,449)	(12,523,548)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	4	46,568	20,364	46,568	20,364
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,721,881)	(13,791,598)	(1,721,881)	(12,503,184)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Proceeds from bank borrowings	13	-	11,582,318	-	11,582,318
Repayments of bank borrowings	13	(7,585,777)	-	(7,585,777)	-
Dividends paid	23	(465,000)	(465,875)	(465,000)	(465,875)
Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities		(8,050,777)	11,116,443	(8,050,777)	11,116,443
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		1,949,489	(606,741)	1,936,506	(444,861)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		(2,832,344)	(2,225,603)	(2,800,117)	(2,355,256)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	9	(882,855)	(2,832,344)	(863,611)	(2,800,117)

The notes on pages 11 to 38 are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited and its subsidiary. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and the requirements of the Companies Act, 1995. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs as adopted by the EU requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the directors to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the group's accounting policies (see Note 3 – Critical accounting estimates and judgements).

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2009

In 2009, the group adopted new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards that are mandatory for the group's accounting period beginning on 1 January 2009. The adoption of these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU did not result in substantial changes to the group's accounting policies. In particular the group adopted IAS 1 (revised), 'Presentation of financial statements' which is effective for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009. IAS 1 (revised) requires 'non-owner changes in equity' to be presented separately from 'owner changes in equity' in a statement of comprehensive income. Accordingly the group presents all 'owner changes in equity' in the statement of changes in equity, whereas all items of income and expense ('non-owner changes in equity') are presented in a performance statement. Comparative information has been re-presented so that it is also in conformity with the revised standard.

Other new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations which are mandatory for the first time for the financial year beginning on 1 January 2009 and which are relevant to the group include:

- IAS 23 (amendment), 'Borrowing costs'. Under the revised standard, an entity is required to capitalise borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset (one that takes a substantial period of time to get ready for use or sale) as part of the cost of that asset. The option of immediately expensing those borrowing costs was removed. No changes to the group's accounting policies are required in this respect.

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards that are not yet effective

Certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published by the date of authorisation for issue of these financial statements but are mandatory for accounting periods beginning after 1 January 2009. The group has not early adopted these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU and the company's directors are of the opinion that there are no requirements that will have a possible significant impact on the group's financial statements in the period of initial application.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.2 Consolidation

(a) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are all entities over which the group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies generally accompanying a shareholding of more than one half of the voting rights. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the group. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the fair value of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange, plus costs directly attributable to the acquisition. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date, irrespective of the extent of any minority interest. The excess of the cost of acquisition over the fair value of the group's share of the identifiable net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill. If the cost of acquisition is less than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised directly in profit or loss (refer to accounting policy 1.5 – Intangible assets).

Inter-company transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

In the company's separate financial statements, investments in subsidiaries are accounted for by the cost method of accounting. Provisions are recorded where, in the opinion of the directors, there is an impairment in value. Where there has been an impairment in the value of an investment, it is recognised as an expense in the period in which the diminution is identified. The results of subsidiaries are reflected in the company's separate financial statements only to the extent of dividends receivable. On disposal of an investment, the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount is charged or credited to profit or loss.

(b) Associates

Associates are all entities over which the group has significant influence but not control, generally accompanying a shareholding of between 20% and 50% of the voting rights. In the consolidated financial statements, investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and are initially recognised at cost. The group's investment in associates includes goodwill (net of any accumulated impairment losses) identified on acquisition (refer to accounting policy 1.5 – Intangible assets).

The group's share of its associates' post-acquisition profits or losses is recognised in profit or loss, and its share of post-acquisition movements in reserves is recognised in reserves. The cumulative post-acquisition movements are adjusted against the carrying amount of the investment. When the group's share of losses in an associate equals or exceeds its interest in the associate, including any other unsecured receivables, the group does not recognise further losses, unless it has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

Unrealised gains on transactions between the group and its associates are eliminated to the extent of the group's interest in the associates. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of associates have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.2 Consolidation - continued

In the company's separate financial statements, investments in associates are accounted for by the cost method of accounting. Provisions are recorded where, in the opinion of the directors, there is an impairment in value. Where there has been an impairment in the value of an investment, it is recognised as an expense in the period in which the diminution is identified. The results of associates are reflected in the company's separate financial statements only to the extent of dividends receivable. On disposal of an investment, the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount is charged or credited to profit or loss.

1.3 Foreign currencies

(a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of each of the group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ('the functional currency'). The consolidated financial statements are presented in euro, which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

(b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in profit or loss.

1.4 Property, plant and equipment

All property, plant and equipment is initially recorded at historical cost and subsequently stated at historical cost less depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Borrowing costs which are incurred for the purpose of acquiring or constructing a qualifying asset are capitalised as part of its cost. Borrowing costs are capitalised while acquisition or construction is actively underway. Capitalisation of borrowing costs is ceased once the asset is substantially complete and is suspended if the development of the asset is suspended.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate the cost of the assets to their residual values over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

	%
Plant and machinery	10 – 25
Office furniture and equipment	10 – 33⅓
Motor vehicles	10 – 25

Assets in the course of construction and payments on account are not depreciated. Buildings and integral assets are depreciated over the term of the lease arrangement or over the estimated useful life of the assets if shorter than the lease term, ranging from ten to twenty years.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.4 Property, plant and equipment - continued

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Property, plant and equipment is reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units). Property, plant and equipment that suffered an impairment is reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount and are included in profit or loss.

1.5 Intangible assets - Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the group's share of the net identifiable assets of the acquired subsidiary/associate at the date of acquisition. Goodwill on acquisitions of subsidiaries is included in 'Intangible assets'. Goodwill on acquisitions of associates is included in 'Investments in associates'. Separately recognised goodwill is tested annually for impairment and carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Impairment losses on goodwill are not reversed. Gains and losses on the disposal of an entity include the carrying amount of goodwill relating to the entity sold.

Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units for the purpose of impairment testing. The allocation is made to those cash-generating units or groups of cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the business combination in which the goodwill arose. A cash-generating unit to which goodwill has been allocated shall be tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the unit may be impaired by comparing the carrying amount of the unit, including the goodwill, with the recoverable amount of the unit. The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

1.6 Financial assets

Classification

The group classifies its financial assets (other than investments in associates, and investments in subsidiaries only in the company's case) as loans and receivables. The classification depends on the purpose for which the financial assets were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition.

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise when the group provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention of trading the receivable. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than twelve months after the end of the reporting period. These are classified as non-current assets. The group's loans and receivables comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position (notes 1.8 and 1.9).

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.6 Financial assets - continued

Recognition and measurement

The group recognises a financial asset in its statement of financial position when it becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets classified within the loans and receivables category are recognised on settlement date, which is the date on which an asset is delivered to or by the group. Loans and receivables are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs. Loans and receivables are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Amortised cost is the initial measurement amount adjusted for the amortisation of any difference between the initial and maturity amounts using the effective interest method. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or have been transferred and the group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership or has not retained control of the asset.

Impairment

The group assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated. The group first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists. The criteria that the group uses to determine that there is objective evidence of an impairment loss include:

- significant financial difficulty of the issuer or obligor;
- a breach of contract, such as a default or delinquency in interest or principal payments;
- it becomes probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The asset's carrying amount of the asset is reduced and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss. If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised (such as an improvement in the debtor's credit rating), the reversal of the previously recognised impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss. Impairment testing of trade receivables is described in note 1.8.

1.7 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out method. The cost of raw materials comprises the invoiced value of materials, net of government grants received (refer to accounting policy 1.17 for 'Government grants'), and, in general, includes transport and handling costs. The cost of finished goods comprises raw materials, direct labour, other direct costs and related production overheads. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less applicable variable selling expenses. In respect of container stocks, net realisable value is estimated by writing down the cost of these stocks to estimated residual values over their estimated useful life.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.8 Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade and other receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss. When a receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for trade and other receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited to profit or loss.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the statement of financial position at face value. Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and bank overdrafts. The bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

1.10 Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

1.11 Financial liabilities

The group recognises a financial liability in its statement of financial position when it becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The group's financial liabilities are classified as financial liabilities which are not at fair value through profit or loss (classified as 'Other liabilities') under IAS 39. Financial liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss are recognised initially at fair value, being the fair value of consideration received, net of transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or the issue of the financial liability. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost. The group derecognises a financial liability from its statement of financial position when the obligation specified in the contract or arrangement is discharged, is cancelled or expires.

1.12 Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.13 Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at the fair value of proceeds received, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost; any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in profit or loss over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method. Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the end of the reporting period.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.14 Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

1.15 Current and deferred tax

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, the deferred income tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

The principal temporary differences arise from the depreciation on property, plant and equipment and provisions for impairment of trade and other receivables.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

1.16 Revenue recognition

Revenue comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and services in the ordinary course of the group's activities. Sales are recognised upon delivery of products or performance of services, net of sales taxes, returns, rebates and discounts. The group recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and when specific criteria have been met for each of the group's activities as described below.

(a) Sales of goods

Sales of goods are recognised when the group has delivered products to the customer and there is no unfulfilled obligation that could affect the customer's acceptance of the products. Delivery does not occur until the risks of obsolescence and loss have been transferred to the customer, and the customer has accepted the products.

(b) Sales of services

Revenue from services is generally recognised in the period the services are provided, based on the services performed to date as a percentage of the total services to be performed. Accordingly, revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction under the percentage of completion method.

(c) Interest income

Interest income is recognised in profit or loss for all interest-bearing instruments as it accrues, on a time-proportion basis using the effective interest method.

Other operating income is recognised on an accrual basis unless collectibility is in doubt.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies - continued

1.17 Government grants

Grants from the government are recognised at their fair value where there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and the group will comply with all attached conditions. Government grants related to costs are deferred and recognised in profit or loss over the period necessary to match them with the costs they are intended to compensate.

Government grants related to assets, i.e. in respect of the purchase of property, plant and equipment, are included in liabilities as deferred government grants, and are credited to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the expected lives of the related assets, presented under 'Other operating income'.

Grants related to income are presented as a deduction in reporting the related expense. Accordingly, government grants or subsidies received in respect of stocks are accounted for as an adjustment to the carrying amount of the related assets and are recognised in profit or loss as a deduction in reporting 'Cost of sales' when stocks affect the cost of goods sold in profit or loss. Grants receivable in relation to interest rate subsidy schemes are recognised in profit or loss as a deduction in reporting 'Finance costs' when the related interest expense is accrued in profit or loss.

1.18 Operating leases

(a) A group undertaking is the lessee

Leases of assets where a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are effectively retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

1.19 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs which are incurred for the purpose of acquiring or constructing qualifying property, plant and equipment or investment property are capitalised as part of its cost. Borrowing costs are capitalised while acquisition or construction is actively underway, during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use. Capitalisation of borrowing costs is ceased once the asset is substantially complete and is suspended if the development of the asset is suspended. All other borrowing costs are expensed. Borrowing costs are recognised for all interest-bearing instruments on an accrual basis using the effective interest method. Interest costs include the effect of amortising any difference between initial net proceeds and redemption value in respect of the group's interest-bearing borrowings.

1.20 Dividend distribution

Dividend distribution to the company's shareholders is recognised as a liability in the financial statements in the period in which the dividends are approved by the shareholders.

2. Financial risk management

2.1 Financial risk factors

The group's activities potentially expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest rate risk, cash flow interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The group's overall risk management, covering risk exposures for both group undertakings, focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the group's financial performance. The company's board of directors provides principles for overall group risk management, as well as policies covering risks referred to above and specific areas such as investment of excess liquidity. The group did not make use of derivative financial instruments (as defined by, and falling within the scope of, IAS 39) to hedge certain risk exposures during the current and preceding financial years.

(a) Market risk

(i) *Foreign exchange risk*

Foreign exchange risk arises from future commercial transactions and recognised assets and liabilities, which are denominated in a currency that is not the respective entity's functional currency. The group is exposed to foreign exchange risk arising from the group's purchases denominated in US dollar and sterling, which purchases are not considered material. The group's risk exposures reflecting the carrying amount of payables denominated in foreign currencies at the end of the reporting period were not significant.

The group's revenues, purchases and other expenditure, financial assets and liabilities, including financing, are mainly denominated in euro except as outlined above. Management does not consider foreign exchange risk attributable to recognised liabilities arising from purchase transactions denominated in US dollar and sterling to be significant since the volume of such purchases and outstanding balances at end of the reporting period are not significant in relative terms.

Balances are settled within very short periods in accordance with the negotiated credit terms. Also, foreign exchange risk attributable to future transactions is not deemed to be material since group undertakings manage the risk by reflecting, as far as is practicable, the impact of exchange rate movements registered with respect to purchases in the respective sales prices.

Accordingly, the group is not significantly exposed to foreign exchange risk and a sensitivity analysis for foreign exchange risk disclosing how profit or loss and equity would have been affected by changes in foreign exchange rates that were reasonably possible at the end of the reporting period is not deemed necessary.

(ii) *Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk*

The group has no significant interest-bearing assets. The group's interest rate risk principally arises from bank borrowings issued at variable rates (Note 13) and amounts owed to related parties subject to floating interest rates (Note 27) which expose the company to cash flow interest rate risk. Management monitors the impact of changes in market interest rates on borrowing costs in respect of these liabilities. Based on this analysis, management considers the potential impact on profit or loss of a defined interest rate shift that is reasonably possible at the end of the reporting period to be immaterial and accordingly the level of interest rate risk is contained. The group's operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

2. Financial risk management - continued

(iii) Price risk

The group is exposed to commodity price risk in relation to purchases of certain raw materials. The company enters into contractual arrangements for the procurement of these raw materials at variable market prices but at the end of the reporting period there were no outstanding contractual commitments in this respect. Management does not consider the potential impact of a defined shift in commodity prices on profit or loss to be significant, particularly in view of the weighting of purchases of such raw materials in relation to the group's total purchases.

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents and credit exposures to customers, including outstanding debtors and committed transactions. The group's exposures to credit risk at the end of the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Loans and receivables category:				
Trade and other receivables (Note 7)	10,393,296	18,208,192	10,393,296	18,221,904
Cash and cash equivalents	325,889	321,010	325,889	321,010
	10,719,185	18,529,202	10,719,185	18,542,914

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in respect of the financial assets mentioned above is equivalent to their carrying amount as disclosed in the respective notes to the financial statements. The group does not hold any significant collateral as security in this respect.

Group undertakings bank only with local financial institutions with high quality standing or rating.

The group assesses the credit quality of its trade customers taking into account financial position, past experience and other factors. It has policies in place to ensure that sales of products are effected to customers with an appropriate credit history. The group monitors the performance of its trade and other receivables on a regular basis to identify incurred collection losses, which are inherent in the group's debtors, taking into account historical experience in collection of accounts receivable.

In view of nature of the group's activities and the market in which it operates, a limited number of customers account for a certain percentage of the group's trade and other receivables, particularly in respect of other debtors. Whilst no individual customer or group of dependent customers is considered by management as a significant concentration of credit risk with respect to contractual debts, these exposures are monitored and reported more frequently and rigorously. These customers trade frequently with the group and are deemed by management to have positive credit standing, usually taking cognisance of the performance history without defaults.

The group manages credit limits and exposures actively in a practicable manner such that past due amounts receivable from customers are within controlled parameters. The group's trade and other receivables, which are not impaired financial assets, are principally debts in respect of transactions with customers for whom there is no recent history of default. Management does not expect any losses from non-performance by these customers.

2. Financial risk management - continued

The group's and company's debtors include significant amounts due from related parties forming part of the Mizzi Organisation (see Note 7) arising from property and financing transactions that have taken place in prior years. The Organisation's treasury monitors intra-group credit exposures at individual entity level on a regular basis and ensures timely performance of these assets in the context of overall group liquidity management. The group assesses the credit quality of these related parties taking into account financial position, performance and other factors. The group and the company take cognisance of the related party relationship with these entities and management does not expect any losses from non-performance or default.

As at 31 December 2009, trade receivables of €382,846 (2008: €343,973) and other receivables of €2,025,353 (2008: €1,975,169) were impaired. Provisions for impairment in this respect are equivalent to the amounts disclosed. The individually impaired receivables mainly relate to a number of independent customers which are in unexpectedly difficult economic situations. The group does not hold any collateral as security in respect of the impaired assets.

The movements in provisions for impairment of trade and other receivables are disclosed in Note 15 to the financial statements.

As at 31 December 2009, trade receivables amounting to €345,247 (2008: €445,924) were past due but not impaired. These mainly relate to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. Whilst a limited number of customers account for a certain percentage of the group's past due debts, management has not identified any major concerns with respect to concentration of credit risk as outlined above. Categorisation of receivables as past due is determined by the group on the basis of the nature of the credit terms in place and credit arrangements actually utilised in managing exposures with customers.

The ageing analysis of these past due trade receivables is as follows:

	Group and Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Up to 30 days	155,944	172,392
30 to 150 days	180,441	263,310
Over 150 days	8,862	10,222
	345,247	445,924

At the end of the reporting periods, the group had no past due receivables in respect of other debtors.

(b) Liquidity risk

The group is exposed to liquidity risk in relation to meeting future obligations associated with its financial liabilities, which comprise borrowings (Note 13) and trade and other payables (Note 12). Prudent liquidity risk management includes maintaining sufficient cash and committed credit lines to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of funding to meet the group's obligations.

2. Financial risk management - continued

Management monitors liquidity risk by reviewing expected cash flows, and ensures that no additional financing facilities are expected to be required over the coming year. This is also performed at a central treasury function which controls the overall liquidity requirements of Mizzi Organisation within certain parameters. The group's liquidity risk is actively managed taking cognisance of the matching of cash inflows and outflows arising from expected maturities of financial instruments, together with the group's committed bank borrowing facilities and other intra-Organisation financing that it can access to meet liquidity needs. In this respect management does not consider liquidity risk to the group as significant taking into account the liquidity management process referred to above.

The group's trade and other payables are entirely repayable within one year from the end of the reporting period. The table below analyses the group's bank borrowings into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining term at the end of the reporting period to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows. Balances due within twelve months equal their carrying balances, as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	Less than 1 year €	Between 1 and 2 years €	Between 2 and 5 years €	Over 5 years €	Total €
At 31 December 2009					
Bank borrowings	1,786,614	1,626,726	5,031,515	6,851,097	15,295,952
At 31 December 2008					
Bank borrowings	4,275,123	2,066,080	8,666,400	16,239,000	31,246,603

2.2 Capital risk management

The group's capital is managed at the level of Mizzi Organisation by reference to the aggregate level of equity and borrowings or debt as disclosed in the respective consolidated financial statements of Consolidated Holdings Limited, Kastell Limited, Mizzi Holdings Limited and The General Soft Drinks Company Limited, together with the financial statements of Falcon Wines & Spirits Limited and Mizzi Motors Limited. The capital of the entities forming part of the Mizzi Organisation, which have been mentioned above, is managed on an aggregate basis by the Organisation as if they were organised as one entity. The Organisation's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the company's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders, and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital. In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the company may issue new shares or adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholders.

2. Financial risk management - continued

The Organisation also monitors the level of capital on the basis of the ratio of aggregated net debt to total capital. Net debt is calculated as total borrowings (as shown in the respective consolidated statement of financial position) less cash and cash equivalents. Total capital is calculated as equity, as shown in the respective statement of financial position, plus net debt. The aggregated figures in respect of the Organisation's equity and borrowings are reflected below:

	2009	2008
	€	€
Total borrowings	72,552,943	78,396,557
Less: cash and cash equivalents	(2,458,839)	(3,075,404)
Net debt	70,094,104	75,321,153
Total equity	86,928,009	86,706,951
Total capital	157,022,113	162,028,104
Net debt/total capital	45%	46%

The Organisation manages the relationship between equity injections and borrowings, being the constituent elements of capital as reflected above, with a view to managing the cost of capital. The level of capital of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited, as reflected in the consolidated statement of financial position, is maintained by reference to its respective financial obligations and commitments arising from operational requirements. In view of the nature of the group's activities and the extent of borrowings or debt, the capital level at the end of the reporting period determined by reference to the consolidated financial statements is deemed adequate by the directors.

2.3 Fair values of financial instruments

At 31 December 2009 and 2008 the carrying amounts of cash at bank, receivables, payables, accrued expenses and short-term borrowings reflected in the financial statements are reasonable estimates of fair value in view of the nature of these instruments or the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instruments and their expected realisation. The fair value of non-current financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the group for similar financial instruments. The fair value of the group's non-current floating interest rate bank borrowings at the end of the reporting period is not significantly different from the carrying amount.

3. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In the opinion of the directors, the accounting estimates and judgements made in the course of preparing these financial statements are not difficult, subjective or complex to a degree which would warrant their description as critical in terms of the requirements of IAS 1.

4. Property, plant and equipment

Group

	Assets in course of construction and payments on account €	Buildings and integral assets €	Plant and machinery €	Office furniture and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Total €
At 1 January 2008						
Cost	15,252,015	-	17,804,955	2,215,994	1,690,546	36,963,510
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(15,297,134)	(2,025,087)	(1,518,116)	(18,840,337)
Net book amount	15,252,015	-	2,507,821	190,907	172,430	18,123,173
Year ended 31 December 2008						
Opening net book amount	15,252,015	-	2,507,821	190,907	172,430	18,123,173
Additions	9,518,306	-	-	361,275	1,881,790	11,761,371
Reclassifications	(24,770,321)	17,073,997	7,696,324	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(76,554)	-	(289,372)	(365,926)
Depreciation charge	-	(561,816)	(1,329,151)	(160,265)	(299,878)	(2,351,110)
Depreciation released on disposals	-	-	76,554	-	289,372	365,926
Closing net book amount	-	16,512,181	8,874,994	391,917	1,754,342	27,533,434
At 31 December 2008						
Cost	-	17,073,997	25,424,725	2,577,269	3,282,964	48,358,955
Accumulated depreciation	-	(561,816)	(16,549,731)	(2,185,352)	(1,528,622)	(20,825,521)
Net book amount	-	16,512,181	8,874,994	391,917	1,754,342	27,533,434
Year ended 31 December 2009						
Opening net book amount	-	16,512,181	8,874,994	391,917	1,754,342	27,533,434
Additions	-	643,491	325,720	312,481	149,009	1,430,701
Disposals	-	-	(210,691)	-	(613,508)	(824,199)
Depreciation charge	-	(549,349)	(1,352,439)	(228,161)	(302,914)	(2,432,863)
Depreciation released on disposals	-	-	210,131	-	613,508	823,639
Closing net book amount	-	16,606,323	7,847,715	476,237	1,600,437	26,530,712
At 31 December 2009						
Cost	-	17,717,488	25,539,754	2,889,750	2,818,465	48,965,457
Accumulated depreciation	-	(1,111,165)	(17,692,039)	(2,413,513)	(1,218,028)	(22,434,745)
Net book amount	-	16,606,323	7,847,715	476,237	1,600,437	26,530,712

4. Property, plant and equipment - continued

Company

	Assets in course of construction and payments on account €	Buildings and integral assets €	Plant and machinery €	Office furniture and equipment €	Motor vehicles €	Total €
At 1 January 2008						
Cost	15,252,015	-	16,662,984	2,215,994	1,690,546	35,821,539
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	(14,617,472)	(2,025,087)	(1,518,116)	(18,160,675)
Net book amount	15,252,015	-	2,045,512	190,907	172,430	17,660,864
Year ended 31 December 2008						
Opening net book amount	15,252,015	-	2,045,512	190,907	172,430	17,660,864
Additions	8,229,892	-	-	361,275	1,881,790	10,472,957
Reclassifications	(23,481,907)	17,073,997	6,407,910	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	(76,554)	-	(289,372)	(365,926)
Depreciation charge	-	(561,816)	(1,102,507)	(160,265)	(299,878)	(2,124,466)
Depreciation released on disposals	-	-	76,554	-	289,372	365,926
Closing net book amount	-	16,512,181	7,350,915	391,917	1,754,342	26,009,355
At 31 December 2008						
Cost	-	17,073,997	22,994,340	2,577,269	3,282,964	45,928,570
Accumulated depreciation	-	(561,816)	(15,643,425)	(2,185,352)	(1,528,622)	(19,919,215)
Net book amount	-	16,512,181	7,350,915	391,917	1,754,342	26,009,355
Year ended 31 December 2009						
Opening net book amount	-	16,512,181	7,350,915	391,917	1,754,342	26,009,355
Additions	-	643,491	325,720	312,481	149,009	1,430,701
Disposals	-	-	(210,691)	-	(613,508)	(824,199)
Depreciation charge	-	(549,349)	(1,125,795)	(228,161)	(302,914)	(2,206,219)
Depreciation released on disposals	-	-	210,131	-	613,508	823,639
Closing net book amount	-	16,606,323	6,550,280	476,237	1,600,437	25,233,277
At 31 December 2009						
Cost	-	17,717,488	23,109,369	2,889,750	2,818,465	46,535,072
Accumulated depreciation	-	(1,111,165)	(16,559,089)	(2,413,513)	(1,218,028)	(21,301,795)
Net book amount	-	16,606,323	6,550,280	476,237	1,600,437	25,233,277

During the financial year ended 31 December 2008, the company's directors have reviewed the estimated remaining useful life of certain components of the plant and machinery category. The useful life of these assets had been revised from 6 to 10 years. The effect of this change in accounting estimate on the financial results of the group and the company for the year under review and on the financial position at the end of the reporting period was a decrease in the group's and the company's depreciation charge of €345,889 (2008: €345,889) and €264,267 (2008: €264,267) respectively, and an equivalent increase in the net assets. The resultant decreased depreciation charge has been included in the determination of the financial results for the applicable financial year in accordance with the requirements of IAS 8. This change in accounting estimate affects the depreciation charge in each period during the remaining useful life of the assets and these will be recognised in the future periods accordingly.

5. Investments in subsidiary

Company

	2009 €	2008 €
Years ended 31 December 2009 and 2008		
Opening and closing cost and carrying amount	1,162	1,162

The subsidiary at 31 December 2009, whose results and financial position affected the figures of the group, is shown below:

	Registered office	Class of shares held	Percentage of shares held %
Bevmed Co. Limited	Mizzi House National Road Blata I-Bajda Malta	Ordinary shares	100

The company's shareholding has remained unchanged from 2008.

6. Investments in associate

Group and Company

	2009 €	2008 €
At 31 December		
Cost	62,020	62,020
Provisions for impairment	(62,020)	(62,020)
Net book amount	-	-

The associate at 31 December 2009 is shown below:

	Registered office	Class of shares held	Percentage of shares held %
Malta Deposit and Return System Limited (In liquidation)	Mizzi House National Road Blata I-Bajda Malta	Ordinary shares Redeemable preference shares	35½ 35½

The company's shareholding has remained unchanged from 2008.

By virtue of a resolution dated 17 December 2008, the shareholders of Malta Deposit and Return System Limited had approved the voluntary dissolution and consequential winding up of the company.

6. Investments in associate - continued

The group's share of results of the associate and its share of the assets and liabilities are as follows:

	Assets €	Liabilities €	Revenues €	Loss €
2008	786	(25,622)	-	(114)

7. Trade and other receivables

	Group		Company	
	2009 €	2008 €	2009 €	2008 €
Current				
Trade receivables	2,782,854	2,754,914	2,782,854	2,754,914
Amounts owed by subsidiary	-	-	-	17,993
Amounts owed by related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation	3,919,468	9,966,500	3,919,468	9,966,477
Amounts owed by other related parties	23,862	-	23,862	-
Government grants receivable	71,920	93,479	71,920	93,479
Amounts recoverable in respect of capital expenditure	891,396	1,347,822	891,396	1,347,822
Other receivables	1,894,343	2,650,293	1,894,343	2,650,293
Prepayments	318,045	479,346	318,045	475,088
	9,901,888	17,292,354	9,901,888	17,306,066
Non-current				
Other receivables	491,408	915,838	491,408	915,838

Non-current amounts are receivable within five years from the end of the reporting period.

Receivables above are disclosed net of provisions for impairment as follows:

	Group and Company	
	2009 €	2008 €
Trade receivables	382,846	343,973
Other receivables: current amounts	1,705,326	1,482,999
Other receivables: non-current amounts	320,027	492,170
	2,408,199	2,319,142

7. Trade and other receivables - continued

Government grants receivable at the end of the reporting period, disclosed in the table above, relate to state aid in respect of the interest rate subsidy scheme. These grants are recognised in profit or loss on an accrual basis to match them with the finance costs they are intended to compensate. The impact of these grants on the current year's results is the amount reflected above.

Government grants receivable as at 31 December 2008, related to state aid in respect of importation of raw materials. A corresponding adjustment to the carrying amount of the related inventories is recorded upon receipt of the grant and accordingly these grants are recognised in profit or loss when inventories affect the cost of goods sold reported in profit or loss. The impact of such grants on the current year's results amounts to €210,330 (2008: €410,707). The impact of other Government grants received on the group's financial results is disclosed in Note 15.

Amounts recoverable in respect of capital expenditure were the subject matter of arbitration proceedings in respect of which judgement was delivered in favour of the company during the current financial year.

Other receivables mainly comprise amounts receivable from the group's customers in relation to contractual arrangements entered into with these parties.

8. Inventories

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Raw materials	1,665,190	2,217,028	1,351,346	1,866,855
Finished goods	533,842	560,479	533,350	567,760
Containers (carried at net realisable value)	214,758	321,295	214,758	321,295
Spare parts and others	68,772	63,738	68,772	63,738
	2,482,562	3,162,540	2,168,226	2,819,648

The cost of inventories recognised as expense is appropriately disclosed in Note 15 to the financial statements. During the current financial year, inventory write-downs amounted to €92,216 (2008: €60,360). These amounts have been included in 'Cost of sales' in the profit or loss.

9. Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statements of cash flows, the year-end cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Cash at bank and in hand	325,889	321,010	325,889	321,010
Bank overdrafts (Note 13)	(1,208,744)	(3,153,354)	(1,189,500)	(3,121,127)
	(882,855)	(2,832,344)	(863,611)	(2,800,117)

10. Share capital

	Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Authorised, issued and fully paid		
50,000 (2008: 50,000) ordinary shares of €2.329373 each	116,469	116,469

11. Deferred taxation

Deferred income taxes are calculated on all temporary differences under the liability method using a principal tax rate of 35% (2008: 5%). Group undertakings were eligible to a reduced rate of taxation of 5% up to 31 December 2008.

At 31 December 2009 and 2008, the company had the following unrecognised unutilised tax credits and temporary differences:

	2009	2008
	€	€
Unutilised tax credits arising from unabsorbed capital allowances	-	1,518,070
Deductible temporary differences arising on depreciation of property, plant and equipment	542,298	359,577
Deductible temporary differences arising on provisions for impairment of investments in associate and other assets	62,020	62,020
Deductible temporary differences arising on provisions for impairment of trade and other receivables	2,408,199	2,319,142

The subsidiary also has deductible temporary differences arising on depreciation of property, plant and equipment amounting to €159,324 (2008: €173,302) at the end of the reporting period.

At 31 December 2009, the group had unutilised investment tax credits amounting to €15,684,909 (2008: €15,163,300). At the end of the reporting period, the company had unutilised investment tax credits amounting to €14,625,445 (2008: €14,101,908). Under the Business Promotion Regulations 2001, the group undertakings are entitled to investment tax credits on "qualifying" capital expenditure, the full amount of which would be available for set off against the respective undertaking's tax liability. The balance of unutilised investment tax credits increase annually at the end of the financial year. At 31 December 2009, these credits increased by 1.45% (2008: 5.36%).

The unrecognised deferred tax assets at the end of the reporting periods have not been reflected in these financial statements due to the uncertainty of the realisation of the tax benefits. Unutilised investment tax credits are forfeited upon cessation of the trade.

12. Trade and other payables

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Current				
Trade payables	924,092	1,160,629	690,702	993,785
Amounts payable in respect of capital expenditure	964,924	1,302,672	964,924	1,302,672
Amounts owed to subsidiary	-	-	537,361	-
Amounts owed to related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation	151,968	260,166	130,363	232,926
Amounts owed to other related parties	122,262	202,803	122,262	202,803
Other payables	235,115	803,851	235,111	803,851
Indirect taxation	510,307	776,505	445,374	764,277
Deferred government grants related to assets	-	14,756	-	14,756
Accruals and deferred income	1,149,939	1,252,474	1,019,446	1,246,696
	4,058,607	5,773,856	4,145,543	5,561,766
Non-current				
Accruals and deferred income	600,000	300,000	600,000	300,000

Non-current deferred income relates to funds received in advance to compensate the group for expenditure that will be incurred until 2016. The amount of the liability is amortised to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over this period to match expenditure the funds are intended to compensate.

13. Borrowings

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Current				
Bank overdrafts	1,208,744	3,153,354	1,189,500	3,121,127
Bank loans	524,054	-	524,054	-
	1,732,798	3,153,354	1,713,554	3,121,127
Non-current				
Bank loans	12,857,821	20,967,652	12,857,821	20,967,652
Total borrowings	14,590,619	24,121,006	14,571,375	24,088,779

13. Borrowings - continued

The company's banking facilities as at 31 December 2009 amounted to €17,657,000 (2008: €25,740,000). These facilities are mainly secured by:

- (a) a general hypothec over the company's assets for €25,740,000 (2008: €24,575,000);
- (b) special hypothecs given by a related party for the amount of €21,663,000 (2008: €21,663,000) on property;
- (c) general hypothecary guarantees given by two related parties for the amounts of €13,976,000 (2008: €12,812,000) and €13,920,000 (2008: €12,812,000) respectively over assets, supported by special hypothecary guarantees for the same amounts over property held; and
- (d) guarantees by a related party for €25,740,000 (2008: €25,740,000), by various related parties for the amount of €11,764,000 (2008: €11,764,000), by another related party for €2,397,000 (2008: €2,397,000) and by the company's subsidiary for €11,764,000 (2008: €11,764,000).

As at 31 December 2009, the company's subsidiary had an overdraft facility amounting to €117,000 (2008: €117,000), which facility was secured by guarantees by related parties which are supported by general hypothecary guarantees over assets and special hypothecary guarantees over properties held.

The group's bank borrowings are entirely subject to floating rates of interest. At 31 December 2008, bank borrowings amounting to €5,817,400 were subject to variable interest rates linked to Euribor. The weighted average effective interest rate for bank borrowings at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

	Group and Company	
	2009	2008
	%	%
Bank overdrafts	4.6	4.0
Bank loans	4.5	4.0

Maturity of non-current bank borrowings:

	Group and Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Between 1 and 2 years	1,394,981	385,607
Between 2 and 5 years	4,639,988	5,253,227
Over 5 years	6,822,852	15,328,818
	12,857,821	20,967,652

14. Revenue

All the group's revenue is derived from activities in the local beverage sector relating to bottling of soft drinks, mineral water and other beverages.

15. Expenses by nature

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Raw materials and other consumables used	8,917,172	9,006,380	9,950,830	9,846,561
Changes in inventories of finished goods	26,637	399,432	34,410	454,793
Employee benefit expense (Note 16)	4,826,419	4,760,118	4,742,109	4,651,840
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 4)	2,432,863	2,351,110	2,206,219	2,124,466
Operating lease rentals payable and similar charges:				
- motor vehicles	17,437	58,193	17,437	58,193
- property	93,337	343,979	93,337	343,979
Business promotion and similar service charges	2,369,637	2,417,804	2,369,637	2,417,804
Movement in provisions for impairment of receivables (included in 'Distribution and selling costs')	89,057	180,267	89,057	180,267
Other expenses	1,581,319	2,215,529	923,612	1,898,283
Total cost of sales; distribution and selling costs; and administrative expenses	20,353,878	21,732,812	20,426,648	21,976,186

Operating profit is stated after crediting the following:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(46,008)	(20,364)	(46,008)	(20,364)
Government grants recognised (included in 'Other operating income')	(22,311)	(14,748)	(22,311)	(14,748)
Exchange differences	(40)	(7,416)	(1,528)	(5,322)

Other Government grants recognised in profit or loss during the current financial year are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements.

Auditor's fees

Fees charged by the auditor for services rendered during the financial periods ended 31 December 2009 and 2008 relate to the following:

	Group	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Annual statutory audit	33,600	31,100
Tax advisory and compliance services	920	5,050
Other non-audit services	7,665	8,535
	42,185	44,685

The auditor's remuneration for the company for the year ended 31 December 2009 amounted to €25,000 (2008: €23,000)

16. Employee benefit expense

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Wages and salaries	4,539,592	4,508,726	4,460,832	4,404,777
Social security costs	286,827	251,392	281,277	247,063
	4,826,419	4,760,118	4,742,109	4,651,840

Average number of persons employed during the year:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	Direct	153	141	147
Administration	56	48	56	48
	209	189	203	183

17. Other operating income

Other operating income comprises gains on disposal of specific assets, including assets which were surplus to the company's requirements.

18. Finance income

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Finance income, principally from third parties	-	336	-	90

19. Finance costs

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Interest payable to related party forming part of Mizzi Organisation	141	218	-	-
Bank interest and charges	923,761	983,113	921,653	980,889
	923,902	983,331	921,653	980,889

Bank finance costs for the current year, reflected in the table above, are stated net of government grants receivable in respect of the interest rate subsidy scheme amounting to €71,920 (refer to Note 7).

20. Tax expense

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Current taxation	-	105,000	-	105,000

The tax on the profit before tax differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the applicable tax rate as follows:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Profit before tax	2,022,919	1,655,975	1,952,398	1,414,797
Tax on profit at 35% (2008: 5%)	708,022	82,799	683,339	70,740
Tax effect of:				
Tax incentives in respect of investment tax credits (refer to Note below)	(17,070)	(8,592)	-	-
Movement in temporary differences arising on property, plant and equipment and provisions for impairment of trade receivables and other assets	(60,838)	(140,409)	(53,225)	(136,942)
Income exempt from tax	(7,810)	(738)	(7,810)	(738)
Unabsorbed capital allowances claimed during the year	-	81,940	-	81,940
Utilisation of unabsorbed capital allowances brought forward from previous year	(531,325)	-	(531,325)	-
Capital gain taxed at 35%	-	90,000	-	90,000
Utilisation of investment tax credits brought forward from previous year	(90,979)	-	(90,979)	-
Tax charge in accounts	-	105,000	-	105,000

The company and its subsidiary are eligible to qualify for tax incentives under the Business Promotion Regulations 2001. Accordingly, the group is entitled to investment tax credits on its "qualifying" capital expenditure, the full amount of which would be available for set-off against the respective company's tax liability. At the end of the reporting period, the balance of unutilised investment tax credits was increased at the rate of 1.45% (2008: 5.36%). Up to 31 December 2008, the group was also eligible to a reduced rate of taxation of 5%.

21. Director's emoluments

	Group and Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Salaries and other emoluments	76,090	80,713

22. Earnings per share

Earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to owners of the company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares of The General Soft Drinks Company Limited in issue during the year.

	Group	
	2009	2008
Net profit attributable to owners of the company	€2,022,919	€1,550,975
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue	50,000	50,000
Earnings per share	€40.46	€31.02

23. Dividends

	Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Final dividends paid on ordinary shares: Gross and net	465,000	465,875
Dividends per share	9.30	9.32

24. Cash generated from operations

Reconciliation of operating profit to cash generated from operations:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Operating profit	2,946,821	2,638,970	2,874,051	2,395,596
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 4)	2,432,863	2,351,110	2,206,219	2,124,466
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(46,008)	(20,364)	(46,008)	(20,364)
Movement in provisions for impairment of trade and other receivables	89,057	180,267	89,057	180,267
Changes in working capital:				
Inventories	679,978	(26,123)	651,422	85,396
Trade and other receivables	7,725,839	(1,788,429)	7,739,551	(1,803,103)
Trade and other payables	(1,077,501)	(284,010)	(778,475)	(1,039,567)
Cash generated from operations	12,751,049	3,051,421	12,735,817	1,922,691

25. Commitments

Operating lease commitments – where a group undertaking is the lessee

The future minimum lease payments payable under non-cancellable property and motor vehicle operating leases are as follows:

	Group and Company	
	2009	2008
	€	€
Not later than one year	81,335	77,785
Later than one year and not later than five years	319,127	311,140
Later than five years	4,317,068	4,394,853
	4,717,530	4,783,778

26. Contingencies

- (a) The company, Kastell Limited, Mizzi Holdings Limited and Consolidated Holdings limited are, jointly and severally with Mizzi Organisation Finance p.l.c. (a related party forming part of the Mizzi Organisation) and between themselves, guaranteeing the repayment of the nominal value of the 2002 and 2009 bonds issued by this related party, for subscription to the general public, on the redemption date and the interest amounts payable in respect of the bonds on each interest payment date. The nominal value of 2002 bonds outstanding at 31 December 2009 is €3,649,382. The issuer resolved to settle these liabilities on 31 May 2010 together with interest on these bonds at 6.7% per annum. The nominal value of 2009 bonds outstanding at 31 December amounts to €30,000,000. These bonds are due for redemption on 30 November 2019 but are redeemable in whole or in part at the issuer's sole discretion on any date falling between 30 November 2016 and 30 November 2019. The 2009 bonds are subject to interest at the rate of 6.2% payable six monthly in arrears on 31 May and 30 November in each year. The guarantors irrevocably and unconditionally guarantee the due and punctual performance of all the obligations undertaken by the issuer under the terms and conditions of the bond issues.

The proceeds of the 2002 bond issue had been advanced to Consolidated Holdings Limited, Kastell Limited and Mizzi Holdings Limited. These advances are repayable over the period to 30 November 2019 and bear interest at the fixed rate of 7.2% per annum until 31 May 2010 and 6.7% thereafter. Interest is payable six monthly in arrears on 31 May and 30 November of each year. The General Soft Drinks Company Limited, Consolidated Holdings Limited, Kastell Limited and Mizzi Holdings Limited, the guarantors in respect of the 2002 bond issue, have jointly and severally, between themselves and with the respective borrower, undertaken under each loan agreement to repay all interest and principal amounts that will become due and payable by the borrower pursuant to the advances from Mizzi Organisation Finance p.l.c.

- (b) The parent company and its subsidiary, together with other related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation, are jointly and severally liable in respect of guarantees given to secure the banking facilities of related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation up to a limit of €25,530,000 (2008: €117,000) and €24,484,000 (2008: €20,965,000) together with interest and charges thereon. These guarantees are supported by a general hypothec over the subsidiary's assets for the amount of €24,482,000 (2008: nil)
- (c) At 31 December 2009, the group and company had contingent liabilities amounting to €60,902 (2008: €122,047) in respect of guarantees issued by the bank on behalf of the company in favour of third parties in the ordinary course of business.

27. Related party transactions

The General Soft Drinks Company Limited and its subsidiary form part of the Mizzi Organisation. The Mizzi Organisation is not a legal entity and does not constitute a group of companies within the meaning of the Companies Act, Cap 386 of the laws of Malta. The Organisation is a conglomerate of companies principally comprising Consolidated Holdings Limited, Kastell Limited, Mizzi Holdings Limited and The General Soft Drinks Company Limited, together with all their respective subsidiaries. The Mizzi Organisation also includes Falcon Wines & Spirits Limited and Mizzi Motors Limited, which are an integral component of the Organisation's beverage and automotive business activities. Indeed, the related operations of the Organisation and the activities of these two entities are managed on a collective basis.

The entities constituting the Mizzi Organisation are ultimately fully owned by Daragon Limited, Demoncada Holdings Limited, Demoncada Limited, Maurice Mizzi Investments Limited and Maurice Mizzi. Members of the Mizzi family in turn ultimately own and control the above mentioned companies.

Accordingly, the members of the Mizzi family, the shareholder companies mentioned above, all entities owned or controlled by the members of the Mizzi family and the shareholder companies, the associates of entities comprising the Organisation and the Organisation entities' key management personnel are the principal related parties of the entities forming part of the Mizzi Organisation.

Trading transactions with these related parties would typically include interest charges, management fees, service charges and other such items which are normally encountered in a group context.

Group

In the ordinary course of its operations, group undertakings sell goods and services to other companies forming part of the Organisation for trading purposes and also purchases goods and services from these companies.

In the opinion of the directors, disclosure of related party transactions, which are generally carried out on commercial terms and conditions, is only necessary when the transactions effected have a material impact on the operating results and financial position of the group. The aggregate invoiced amounts in respect of a considerable number of transaction types carried out with related parties are not considered material and accordingly they do not have a significant effect on these financial statements.

27. Related party transactions - continued

Except for transactions disclosed or referred to previously, the following significant operating transactions, which were carried out principally with related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation, have a material effect on the operating results and financial position of the group:

	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Sales of goods and services				
Sale of goods held for resale	354,625	591,536	354,625	591,536
<hr/>				
	Group		Company	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	€	€	€	€
Purchases of goods and services				
Purchases of goods from subsidiary	-	-	3,315,490	3,302,246
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	517,626	3,461,461	517,626	3,461,461
Servicing, advertising and similar charges	692,830	721,573	692,830	721,573
Property operating lease rentals payable	-	156,262	-	156,262
Management fees payable and similar charges	76,842	76,357	76,842	76,357
	1,287,298	4,415,653	4,602,788	7,717,899
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During the financial year ended 31 December 2008, the parent company incurred capital expenditure on behalf of its subsidiary amounting to €1,264,570.

The transactions disclosed above were carried out on commercial terms. Year-end balances with related parties, arising principally from the transactions referred to previously, are disclosed in Notes 7 and 12 to these financial statements.

Expenditure amounting to €502,177 (2008: €690,146) and €44,435 (2008: nil) has been recharged by the parent company to related parties forming part of Mizzi Organisation and other related parties respectively. The group's expenditure reflected in profit or loss comprises amounts recharged from a related party forming part of Mizzi Organisation of €256,275 (2008: €285,404).

Key management personnel compensation, consisting of director's remuneration as disclosed in Note 21, has been recharged by a related party.

Amounts owed to related parties as at 31 December 2009 of €7,337 (2008: €9,629) are subject to interest at 7.2% (2008: 7.2%). Interest payable to related parties is disclosed in Note 19.

Company

Expenditure amounting to €448,404 (2008: €385,835) has been recharged by the company to its subsidiary. The company's expenditure reflected in profit or loss comprises amounts recharged from a related party forming part of Mizzi Organisation of €250,180 (2008: €280,184).

28. Statutory information

The General Soft Drinks Company Limited is a limited liability company and is incorporated in Malta.