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THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 to 1989

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

4328229

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF

Axis Specialty UK Holdings Limited

1. The Company's name is "Axis Specialty UK Holdings Limited".
2. The Company's registered office is to be situated in England and Wales.
3. The Company's objects are:-

3.1.1 To carry on the business of a holding company in all its branches, and to acquire by purchase, lease, concession, grant, licence or otherwise such businesses, options, rights, privileges, lands, buildings, leases, underleases, stocks, shares, debentures, debenture stock, bonds, obligations, securities, reversionary interests, annuities, policies of assurance and other property and rights and interests in property as the Company shall deem fit and generally to hold, manage, develop, lease, sell or dispose of the same; and to vary any of the investments of the Company, to act as trustees of any deeds constituting or securing any debentures, debenture stock or other securities or obligations; to enter into, assist, or participate in financial, commercial, mercantile, industrial and other transactions, undertakings and businesses of every description, and to establish, carry on, develop and extend the same or sell, dispose of or otherwise turn the same to account, and to co-ordinate the policy and administration of any companies of which this Company is a member or which are in any manner controlled by, or connected with the Company, and to carry on all or any of the businesses of capitalists, trustees, financiers, financial agents, company promoters, bill discounters, insurance brokers and agents, mortgage brokers, rent and debt collectors, stock and share brokers and dealers and commission and general agents, merchants and traders; and to manufacture, buy, sell, maintain, repair and deal in plant, machinery, tools, articles and things of all kinds capable of being used for the purposes of the above-mentioned businesses or any of them, or likely to be required by customers of or persons having dealings with the Company.

3.1.2 To carry on any other trade or business whatever which can in the opinion of the Board of Directors be advantageously carried on in connection with or ancillary to any of the businesses of the Company.

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3.2 To purchase or by any other means acquire and take options over any property whatever, and any rights or privileges of any kind over or in respect of any property.

3.3 To apply for, register, purchase, or by other means acquire and protect, prolong and renew, whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, any trade marks, patents, copyrights, trade secrets, or other intellectual property rights, licences, secret processes, designs, protections and concessions and to disclaim, alter, modify, use and turn to account and to manufacture under or grant licences or privileges in respect of the same, and to expend money in experimenting upon, testing and improving any patents, inventions or rights which the Company may acquire or propose to acquire.

3.4 To acquire or undertake the whole or any part of the business, goodwill, and assets of any person, firm, or company carrying on or proposing to carry on any of the businesses which the Company is authorised to carry on and as part of the consideration for such acquisition to undertake all or any of the liabilities of such person, firm or company, or to acquire an interest in, amalgamate with, or enter into partnership or into any arrangement for sharing profits, or for co-operation, or for mutual assistance with any such person, firm or company, or for subsidising or otherwise assisting any such person, firm or company, and to give or accept, by way of consideration for any of the acts or things aforesaid or property acquired, any shares, debentures, debenture stock or securities that may be agreed upon, and to hold and retain, or sell, mortgage and deal with any shares, debentures, debenture stock or securities so received.

3.5 To improve, manage, construct, repair, develop, exchange, let on lease or otherwise, mortgage, charge, sell, dispose of, turn to account, grant licences, options, rights and privileges in respect of, or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property and rights of the Company.

3.6 To invest and deal with the moneys of the Company not immediately required in such manner as may from time to time be determined and to hold or otherwise deal with any investments made.

3.7 To lend and advance money or give credit on any terms and with or without security to any person, firm or company (including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing any holding company, subsidiary or fellow subsidiary of, or any other company associated in any way with, the Company), to enter into guarantees, contracts of indemnity and suretyships of all kinds, to receive money on deposit or loan upon any terms, and to secure or guarantee in any manner and upon any terms the payment of any sum of money or the performance of any obligation by any person, firm or company (including without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing any such holding company, subsidiary, fellow subsidiary or associated company as aforesaid).

3.8 To borrow and raise money in any manner and to secure the repayment of any money borrowed, raised or owing by mortgage, charge, standard security, lien or other security upon the whole or any part of the Company's property or assets (whether present or future), including its uncalled capital, and also by a similar mortgage, charge, standard security, lien or security to secure and

guarantee the performance by the Company of any obligation or liability it may undertake or which may become binding on it.

3.9 To draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, negotiate, execute and issue cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, bills of lading, warrants, debentures, and other negotiable or transferable instruments.

3.10 To apply for, promote, and obtain any Act of Parliament, order, or licence of the Department of Trade or other authority for enabling the Company to carry any of its objects into effect, or for effecting any modification of the Company's constitution, or for any other purpose which may seem calculated directly or indirectly to promote the Company's interests, and to oppose any proceedings or applications which may seem calculated directly or indirectly to prejudice the Company's interests.

3.11 To enter into any arrangements with any government or authority (supreme, municipal, local, or otherwise) that may seem conducive to the attainment of the Company's objects or any of them, and to obtain from any such government or authority any charters, decrees, rights, privileges or concessions which the Company may think desirable and to carry out, exercise, and comply with any such charters, decrees, rights, privileges, and concessions.

3.12 To subscribe for, take, purchase, or otherwise acquire, hold, sell, deal with and dispose of, place and underwrite shares, stocks, debentures, debenture stocks, bonds, obligations or securities issued or guaranteed by any other company constituted or carrying on business in any part of the world, and debentures, debenture stocks, bonds, obligations or securities issued or guaranteed by any government or authority, municipal, local or otherwise, in any part of the world.

3.13 To control, manage, finance, subsidise, co-ordinate or otherwise assist any company or companies in which the Company has a direct or indirect financial interest, to provide secretarial, administrative, technical, commercial and other services and facilities of all kinds for any such company or companies and to make payments by way of subvention or otherwise and any other arrangements which may seem desirable with respect to any business or operations of or generally with respect to any such company or companies.

3.14 To promote any other company for the purpose of acquiring the whole or any part of the business or property or undertaking or any of the liabilities of the Company, or of undertaking any business or operations which may appear likely to assist or benefit the Company or to enhance the value of any property or business of the Company, and to place or guarantee the placing of, underwrite, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire all or any part of the shares or securities of any such company as aforesaid.

3.15 To sell or otherwise dispose of the whole or any part of the business or property of the Company, either together or in portions, for such consideration as the Company may think fit, and in particular for shares, debentures, or securities of any company purchasing the same.

3.16 To act as agents or brokers and as trustees for any person, firm or company, and to undertake and perform sub-contracts.

3.17 To remunerate any person, firm or company rendering services to the Company either by cash payment or by the allotment of shares or other securities of the Company credited as paid up in full or in part or otherwise as may be thought expedient.

3.18 To distribute among the members of the Company in kind any property of the Company of whatever nature.

3.19 To pay all or any expenses incurred in connection with the promotion, formation and incorporation of the Company, or to contract with any person, firm or company to pay the same, and to pay commissions to brokers and others for underwriting, placing, selling, or guaranteeing the subscription of any shares or other securities of the Company.

3.20 To support and subscribe to any charitable or public object and to support and subscribe to any institution, society, or club which may be for the benefit of the Company or its directors or employees, or may be connected with any town or place where the Company carries on business; to give or award pensions, annuities, gratuities, and superannuation or other allowances or benefits or charitable aid and generally to provide advantages, facilities and services for any persons who are or have been directors of, or who are or have been employed by, or who are serving or have served the Company, or any company which is a subsidiary of the Company or the holding company of the Company or a fellow subsidiary of the Company or the predecessors in business of the Company or of any such subsidiary, holding or fellow subsidiary company and to the wives, widows, children and other relatives and dependants of such persons; to make payments towards insurance including insurance for any director, officer or auditor against any liability in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust (so far as permitted by law); and to set up, establish, support and maintain superannuation and other funds or schemes (whether contributory or non-contributory) for the benefit of any of such persons and of their wives, widows, children and other relatives and dependants; and to set up, establish, support and maintain profit sharing or share purchase schemes for the benefit of any of the employees of the Company or of any such subsidiary, holding or fellow subsidiary company and to lend money to any such employees or to trustees on their behalf to enable any such schemes to be established or maintained.

3.21 Subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Act (if and so far as such provisions shall be applicable) to give, directly or indirectly, financial assistance for the acquisition of shares or other securities of the Company or of any other company or for the reduction or discharge of any liability incurred in respect of such acquisition.

3.22 To procure the Company to be registered or recognised in any part of the world.

3.23 To cease carrying on or to wind up any business or activity of the Company, and to cancel any registration of, and to wind up or procure the dissolution of the Company in any state or territory.

3.24 To do all or any of the things or matters aforesaid in any part of the world and either as principals, agents, contractors or otherwise, and by or through agents, brokers, sub-contractors or otherwise and either alone or in conjunction with others.

3.25 To do all such other things as may be deemed incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Company's objects or any of them.

3.26 AND so that:-

3.26.1 None of the objects set forth in any sub-clause of this clause shall be restrictively construed but the widest interpretation shall be given to each such object, and none of such objects shall, except where the context expressly so requires, be in any way limited or restricted by reference to or inference from any other object or objects set forth in such sub-clause, or by reference to or inference from the terms of any other sub-clause of this clause, or by reference to or inference from the name of the Company.

3.26.2 None of the sub-clauses of this clause and none of the objects therein specified shall be deemed subsidiary or ancillary to any of the objects specified in any other such sub-clause, and the Company shall have as full a power to exercise each and every one of the objects specified in each sub-clause of this clause as though each such sub-clause contained the objects of a separate Company.

3.26.3 The word "company" in this clause, except where used in reference to the Company, shall be deemed to include any partnership or other body of persons, whether incorporated or unincorporated and whether domiciled in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.

3.26.4 In this clause the expression "the Act" means the Companies Act 1985, but so that any reference in this clause to any provision of the Act shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision for the time being in force.

4. The liability of the members is limited.

5. The Company's share capital is £1,000 divided into 1,000 shares of £1 each.

I, the subscriber to this Memorandum of Association, wish to be formed into a Company pursuant to this Memorandum; and I agree to take the number of shares shown opposite my name.

Name and address of Subscriber

Number of shares taken
by the Subscriber

Instant Companies Limited
1 Mitchell Lane
Bristol BS1 6BU



- One

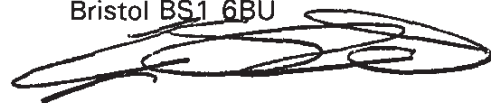
Total shares taken

- One

Dated 23rd November 2001

Witness to the above Signature:-

Glenys Copeland
1 Mitchell Lane
Bristol BS1 6BU



COMPANY NUMBER 4328229

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 to 1989

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

WRITTEN RESOLUTION OF
AXIS SPECIALTY UK HOLDINGS LIMITED
("the Company")

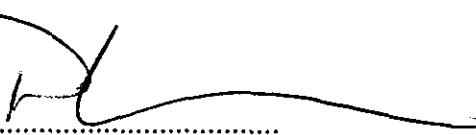
Pursuant to Section 381 of the Companies Act 1985

Passed on 16 December 2002

WE, the undersigned member of the above named Company being the only member who at the date hereof would be entitled to attend and vote at a general meeting of the Company, hereby resolve as follows, such Written Resolution to take effect as a Special Resolution.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

THAT, without prejudice to efficacy of resolutions passed prior to this resolution and, in particular, a resolution approving the transfer of shares in the Company from Axis Specialty Ltd to AXIS Capital Holdings Limited, the draft Regulations, in the form attached hereto, be and hereby are approved and adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all the existing Articles of Association.

Signed 

Dated 16 December 2002

Duly authorised representative of ~~AXIS Specialty Limited~~



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THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 to 1989

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF

Axis Specialty UK Holdings Limited

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1 The regulations contained in Table A in the Schedule to the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 (SI 1985 No. 805) as amended by the Companies (Tables A to F) (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (SI 1985 No. 1052) and as further amended by The Companies Act 1985 (Electronic Communications) Order 2000 (SI 2000 No. 3373) (such Table being hereinafter called "Table A") shall apply to the Company save in so far as they are excluded or varied hereby and such regulations (save as so excluded or varied) and the Articles hereinafter contained shall be the Articles of Association of the Company.

1.2 In these Articles the expressions:-

"the Act" means the Companies Act 1985, but so that any reference in these Articles to any provision of the Act shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision for the time being in force; and

"subsidiary company" means a company which is a subsidiary of another within the meaning of section 736 of the Act except that a company shall not be regarded as a subsidiary of another by reason only of the fact that that other is a member of it and has the right to appoint or remove a majority of its board of directors and the definition of "holding company" in the said section shall be construed accordingly.

2. ALLOTMENT OF SHARES

2.1 Notwithstanding any other provisions contained in this article 2, for so long as the Company is a subsidiary company, the directors shall not be entitled to exercise any of the powers, authorities, rights or discretions conferred on them by this article 2 without the prior approval of the Company in general meeting. Authority given to the directors for the purposes of or pursuant to section 80 of the Act shall not constitute a consent pursuant to the provisions of this article 2.1.

2.2 In accordance with section 91(1) of the Act sections 89(1) and 90(1) to (6) (inclusive) of the Act shall not apply to the Company.

2.3 The directors are generally and unconditionally authorised for the purposes of section 80 of the Act to exercise any power of the Company to allot and grant rights to subscribe for or convert securities into shares of the Company up to the amount of the authorised share capital with which the Company is incorporated at any time or times during the period of five years from the date of incorporation and the directors may, after that period, allot any shares or grant any such rights under this authority in pursuance of an offer or agreement so to do made by the Company within that period. The authority hereby given may at any time (subject to the said section 80) be renewed, revoked or varied by ordinary resolution.

3. SHARES

3.1 The lien conferred by regulation 8 in Table A shall attach also to fully paid-up shares, and the Company shall also have a first and paramount lien on all shares, whether fully paid or not, standing registered in the name of any person indebted or under liability to the Company, whether he shall be the sole registered holder thereof or shall be one of two or more joint holders, for all moneys presently payable by him or his estate to the Company. Regulation 8 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

3.2 The liability of any member in default in respect of a call shall be increased by the addition at the end of the first sentence of regulation 18 in Table A of the words "and all expenses that may have been incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment".

4. GENERAL MEETINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Every notice convening a general meeting shall comply with the provisions of section 372(3) of the Act as to giving information to members in regard to their right to appoint proxies; and notices of and other communications relating to any general meeting which any member is entitled to receive shall be sent to the directors and to the auditors for the time being of the Company.

4.2 Regulation 37 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the last sentence were omitted therefrom.

4.3.1 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present. Subject to article 4.3.2 below, two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation, shall be a quorum.

4.3.2 If and for so long as the Company has only one member, that member present in person or by proxy or (if that member is a corporation) by a duly authorised representative shall be a quorum.

4.3.3 If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for a general meeting the general meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other day and at such other time and place as the directors may

determine; and if at the adjourned general meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed therefor such adjourned general meeting shall be dissolved.

4.3.4 Regulations 40, 41 and 53 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

4.4.1 Resolutions under section 303 of the Act for the removal of a director before the expiration of his period of office and under section 391 of the Act for the removal of an auditor before the expiration of his period of office shall only be considered by the Company in general meeting.

4.5 A member present at a meeting by proxy shall be entitled to speak at the meeting and shall be entitled to one vote on a show of hands. In any case where the same person is appointed proxy for more than one member he shall on a show of hands have as many votes as the number of members for whom he is proxy. Regulation 54 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

4.6.1 Regulation 62 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the words "within the United Kingdom" were omitted therefrom.

4.6.2 Unless resolved by ordinary resolution that regulation 62 in Table A shall apply without the following modification, the appointment of a proxy and any authority under which the proxy is appointed or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the directors may be deposited or received at the place specified in regulation 62 in Table A up to the commencement of the meeting or (in any case where a poll is taken otherwise than at the meeting) of the taking of the poll or may be handed to the chairman of the meeting prior to the commencement of the business of the meeting.

5. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

5.1.1 Regulation 64 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

5.1.2 The maximum number and minimum number respectively of the directors may be determined from time to time by ordinary resolution. Subject to and in default of any such determination there shall be no maximum number of directors and the minimum number of directors shall be one. Whenever the minimum number of directors is one, a sole director shall have authority to exercise all the powers and discretions by Table A and by these Articles expressed to be vested in the directors generally, and regulation 89 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

5.2 The directors shall not be required to retire by rotation and regulations 73 to 80 (inclusive) in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

5.3 No person shall be appointed a director at any general meeting unless either:-

(a) he is recommended by the directors; or

(b) not less than 14 nor more than 35 clear days before the date appointed for the general meeting, notice signed by a member qualified to vote at the general meeting has been

given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment, together with notice signed by that person of his willingness to be appointed.

5.4.1 Subject to article 5.8 above, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint any person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director.

5.4.2 The directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number determined in accordance with article 5.1.2 above as the maximum number of directors and for the time being in force. A director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following general meeting. If not reappointed at such general meeting, he shall vacate office at the conclusion thereof.

6. VOTING AT A SUBSIDIARY'S GENERAL MEETING

6.1 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Association to the contrary, if the Company is required or entitled to vote at a general meeting of any subsidiary of the Company, the Directors shall refer the subject matter of the vote to the members of the Company on a poll and seek authority from the members for the Company's corporate representative or proxy to vote in favour of the resolution proposed by the subsidiary. The directors shall cause the Company's corporate representative or proxy to vote the Company's shares in the subsidiary pro rata to the votes received at the general meeting of the Company, with votes for or against the directing resolution being taken, respectively, as an instruction for the Company's corporate representative or proxy to demand a poll and to vote the appropriate proportion of its shares for and the appropriate proportion of its shares against the resolution proposed by the subsidiary.

7. BORROWING POWERS

7.1 The directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money without limit as to amount and upon such terms and in such manner as they think fit, and subject (in the case of any security convertible into shares) to section 80 of the Act to grant any mortgage, charge or standard security over its undertaking, property and uncalled capital, or any part thereof, and to issue debentures, debenture stock, and other securities whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

8. ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

8.1 Unless otherwise determined by the Company in general meeting by ordinary resolution an alternate director shall not be entitled as such to receive any remuneration from the Company, save that he may be paid by the Company such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct, and the first sentence of regulation 66 in Table A shall be modified accordingly.

8.2 A director, or any such other person as is mentioned in regulation 65 in Table A, may act as an alternate director to represent more than one director, and an alternate director shall be entitled at any meeting of the directors or of any committee of the directors to one vote for every director whom he represents in addition to his own vote (if any) as a director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

8.3 Regulation 66 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the last sentence were omitted therefrom.

9. GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS

9.1.1 The directors may exercise the powers of the Company conferred by its Memorandum of Association in relation to the payment of pensions, gratuities and other benefits and shall be entitled to retain any benefits received by them or any of them by reason of the exercise of any such powers.

9.1.2 Regulation 87 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

10. NOTICES

10.1 Regulation 112 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the third sentence was omitted therefrom.

10.2 Regulation 116 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the words "within the United Kingdom" were omitted therefrom.

11. MEETINGS

11.1 In this article "communication" and "electronic communication" shall bear the meanings set forth in the Electronic Communications Act 2000 or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof.

11.2 A person in communication by electronic means with the chairman and with all other parties to a meeting of the directors or of a committee of the directors shall be regarded for all purposes as personally attending such a meeting provided that but only for so long as at such a meeting he has the ability to communicate interactively and simultaneously with all other parties attending the meeting including all persons attending by electronic means.

11.3 A meeting at which one or more of the directors attends by electronic means is deemed to be held at such place as the directors shall at the said meeting resolve. In the absence of a resolution as aforesaid, the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the place, if any, where a majority of the directors attending the meeting are physically present, or in default of such a majority, the place at which the chairman of the meeting is physically present.

12. PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

12.1.1 Regulation 88 in Table A shall be read and construed as if the third sentence were omitted therefrom.

12.1.2 A director may vote, at any meeting of the directors or of any committee of the directors, on any resolution, notwithstanding that it in any way concerns or relates to a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, any kind of interest whatsoever, and if he shall vote on any such resolution his vote shall be counted; and in relation to any such resolution as aforesaid he shall

(whether or not he shall vote on the same) be taken into account in calculating the quorum present at the meeting.

12.1.3 Each director shall comply with his obligations to disclose his interest in contracts under section 317 of the Act.

12.1.4 Regulations 94 to 97 (inclusive) in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

13. THE SEAL

13.1 If the Company has a seal it shall only be used with the authority of the directors or of a committee of directors. The directors may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a director and by the secretary or second director. The obligation under regulation 6 in Table A relating to the sealing of share certificates shall apply only if the Company has a seal. Regulation 101 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

13.2 The Company may exercise the powers conferred by section 39 of the Act with regard to having an official seal for use abroad, and such powers shall be vested in the directors.

14. INDEMNITY

14.1 Every director or other officer or auditor of the Company shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all losses or liabilities which he may sustain or incur in or about the execution of the duties of his office or otherwise in relation thereto, including any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, or in connection with any application under section 144 or section 727 of the Act in which relief is granted to him by the Court, and no director or other officer shall be liable for any loss, damage or misfortune which may happen to or be incurred by the Company in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto. But this article shall only have effect in so far as its provisions are not avoided by section 310 of the Act.

14.2 The directors shall have power to purchase and maintain for any director, officer or auditor of the Company insurance against any such liability as is referred to in section 310(1) of the Act.

14.3 Regulation 118 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

15. TRANSFER OF SHARES

15.1 The directors may, in their absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefor, decline to register the transfer of a share, whether or not it is a fully paid share.

15.2 For so long as the Company is a subsidiary company, no transfer of a share shall be registered without the prior consent of the Company in general meeting.

15.3 The first sentence of regulation 24 in Table A shall not apply to the Company.

Name and address of Subscriber

Instant Companies Limited
1 Mitchell Lane
Bristol BS1 6BU

Dated 23rd November 2001

Witness to the above Signature:-

Glenys Copeland
1 Mitchell Lane
Bristol BS1 6BU