#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### STARVEST plc

Notice is hereby given that the ninth Annual General Meeting of STARVEST plc will be held at St Ethelburga's, 78 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AG on Monday 14 December 2009 at 3.00 pm for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions which will be proposed as ordinary resolutions in the case of resolutions 1 to 4 and 6 and as special resolutions in the case of resolutions 5 and 7.

#### **ORDINARY BUSINESS**

- 1 To receive the report of the Directors and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2009.
- **2** To re-appoint Anthony Charles Raby Scutt retiring by rotation as a Director in accordance with the Articles of Association at the conclusion of the meeting and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election as a Director of the Company.
- **3** To re-appoint Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors of the Company to act until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.
- 4 That in substitution for all existing authorities under the following section to the extent unutilised, the Directors be generally and unconditionally authorised pursuant to Section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act") to allot relevant securities (within the meaning of section 560) up to an aggregate nominal amount of £500,000. The authority referred to in this resolution shall be in substitution for all other existing authorities, and shall expire (unless previously renewed, varied or revoked by the Company in general meeting) at the earlier of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and the date falling 15 months following the date of the Annual General Meeting being convened by this Notice. The Company may, at any time prior to the expiry of the authority, make an offer or agreement which would or might require relevant securities to be allotted after the expiry of the authority and the Directors are hereby authorised to allot relevant securities in pursuance of such offer or agreement as if the authority had not expired.

#### Special resolution

- 5 That in substitution for all existing authorities to the extent unutilised, the Directors, pursuant to Section 570 of the Act, be empowered to allot relevant securities (within the meaning of Section 560 of the Act) for cash pursuant to the authority conferred by Resolution 4 as if Section 561(1) of the Act did not apply to any such allotment provided that this power shall be limited to:
  - (a) the allotment of equity securities where such securities have been offered (whether by way of a rights issue, open offer or otherwise) to the holders of Ordinary shares in the capital of the Company in proportion (as nearly as may be) to their holdings of such ordinary shares but subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may deem necessary or expedient to deal with equity securities representing fractional entitlements and with legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of, any regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory; and



#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CONTINUED

- (b) the allotment, other than pursuant to (a) above, of equity securities:
  - (i) arising from the exercise of options and warrants outstanding at the date of this resolution:
  - (ii) other than pursuant to (i) above, up to an aggregate nominal value of £500,000,

and this power shall, unless previously revoked or varied by special resolution of the Company in general meeting, expire at the earlier of the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and the date falling 15 months following the date of the Annual General Meeting being convened by this Notice. The Company may, before such expiry, make offers or agreements which would or might require equity securities to be allotted after such expiry and the Directors are hereby empowered to allot equity securities in pursuance of such offers or agreements as if the power conferred hereby had not expired.

#### **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

#### **Ordinary resolution**

- **6** THAT the Company be unconditionally and generally authorised to make market purchases (as defined by the Companies Act 1985 Section 163(3)) of Ordinary shares of £0.01 each in its capital, provided that:
  - a) the maximum number of shares that may be so acquired is 5,500,000, being a number that approximates to 15% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company at the date of the meeting;
  - b) the minimum price that may be paid for the shares is £0.01 per share, being the nominal value per share;
  - c) the maximum price that may be so paid per share is an amount equal to 20% higher than the average of the middle market quotations per share as derived from the Daily List of the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange for the fifteen business days immediately preceding the day on which the shares are purchased; and

the authority conferred by this resolution shall expire on the date falling eighteen months from the date of passing of this resolution but not so as to prejudice the completion of a purchase contracted before that date.

#### **Special resolution**

7 That the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company shall no longer apply and that in the place of those, the Memorandum and Articles of Association attached to these resolutions and signed by the chairman for identification purposes shall be adopted by the Company, and that the Company Secretary be instructed to file them with the Registrar of Companies.



#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CONTINUED

If you are a registered holder of Ordinary shares in the Company, whether or not you are able to attend the meeting, you may use the enclosed form of proxy to appoint one or more persons to attend and vote on a poll on your behalf. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.

A form of proxy is provided, which may be sent to the Company's registrar. This may be sent by facsimile transfer to 01252 719232, or by mail using the enclosed reply paid card to:

The Company Secretary Starvest plc c/o Share Registrars Limited Suite E, First Floor, 9 Lion & Lamb Yard Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7BR

In either case, the signed proxy must be received by 3.00 pm on Thursday 10 December 2009.

**By Order of the Board** Registered Office:

John Watkins 123 Goldsworth Road

Director and Company Secretary Woking
Surrey
13 November 2009 GU21 6LR



# EXPLANATORY NOTES CONCERNING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND THE RESOLUTIONS TO BE PROPOSED

#### Entitlement to attend and vote

1 Pursuant to Regulation 41 of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001, the Company specifies that only those members registered on the Company's register of members 48 hours before the time of the Meeting shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting.

#### **Appointment of proxies**

- If you are a member of the Company at the time set out in note 1 above, you are entitled to appoint a proxy to exercise all or any of your rights to attend, speak and vote at the Meeting and you should have received a proxy form with this notice of meeting. You can only appoint a proxy using the procedures set out in these notes and the notes to the proxy form.
- 3 A proxy does not need to be a member of the Company but must attend the Meeting to represent you. Details of how to appoint the Chairman of the Meeting or another person as your proxy using the proxy form are set out in the notes to the proxy form. If you wish your proxy to speak on your behalf at the Meeting you will need to appoint your own choice of proxy (not the Chairman) and give your instructions directly to them.
- 4 You may appoint more than one proxy provided each proxy is appointed to exercise rights attached to different shares. You may not appoint more than one proxy to exercise rights attached to any one share. To appoint more than one proxy, please contact the registrars of the Company, Share Registrars Limited on 01252 821 390.
- 5 A vote withheld is not a vote in law, which means that the vote will not be counted in the calculation of votes for or against the resolution. If no voting indication is given, your proxy will vote or abstain from voting at his or her discretion. Your proxy will vote (or abstain from voting) as he or she thinks fit in relation to any other matter which is put before the Meeting.

#### Appointment of proxy using hard copy proxy form

6 The notes to the proxy form explain how to direct your proxy how to vote on each resolution or withhold their vote.

To appoint a proxy using the proxy form, the form must be:

completed and signed;

sent or delivered to Share Registrars Limited at Suite E, First Floor, 9 Lion and Lamb Yard, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7LL or by facsimile transmission to 01252 719 232; and

received by Share Registrars Limited no later than 48 hours (excluding non-business days) prior to the Meeting.

In the case of a member which is a company, the proxy form must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by an officer of the company or an attorney for the company.

Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the proxy form is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the proxy form.



#### EXPLANATORY NOTES AGM CONTINUED

#### Appointment of proxy by joint members

7 In the case of joint holders, where more than one of the joint holders purports to appoint a proxy, only the appointment submitted by the most senior holder will be accepted. Seniority is determined by the order in which the names of the joint holders appear in the Company's register of members in respect of the joint holding (the first-named being the most senior).

#### **Changing proxy instructions**

8 To change your proxy instructions simply submit a new proxy appointment using the methods set out above. Note that the cut-off time for receipt of proxy appointments (see above) also apply in relation to amended instructions; any amended proxy appointment received after the relevant cut-off time will be disregarded.

Where you have appointed a proxy using the hard-copy proxy form and would like to change the instructions using another hard-copy proxy form, please contact Share Registrars Limited on 01252 821 390.

If you submit more than one valid proxy appointment, the appointment received last before the latest time for the receipt of proxies will take precedence.

#### **Termination of proxy appointments**

9 In order to revoke a proxy instruction you will need to inform the Company using one of the following methods:

By sending a signed hard copy notice clearly stating your intention to revoke your proxy appointment to Share Registrars Limited at Suite E, First Floor, 9 Lion and Lamb Yard, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7LL or by facsimile transmission to 01252 719 232. In the case of a member which is a company, the revocation notice must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by an officer of the company or an attorney for the company. Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the revocation notice is signed (or a duly certified copy of such power or authority) must be included with the revocation notice.

In either case, the revocation notice must be received by Share Registrars Limited no later than 48 hours (excluding non-business days) prior to the Meeting.

If you attempt to revoke your proxy appointment but the revocation is received after the time specified then, subject to the paragraph directly below, your proxy appointment will remain valid.

Appointment of a proxy does not preclude you from attending the Meeting and voting in person. If you have appointed a proxy and attend the Meeting in person, your proxy appointment will automatically be terminated.

#### Issued shares and total voting rights

10 As at 29 October 2009, the Company's issued share capital comprised 37,217,259 Ordinary shares of £0.01 each of which 2,300,000 Ordinary shares were held by the Company in treasury. Each Ordinary share carries the right to one vote at a general meeting of the Company and, therefore, the total number of voting rights in the Company as at 29 October 2009 is 34,917,259.



#### EXPLANATORY NOTES AGM CONTINUED

#### **Communications with the Company**

11 Except as provided above, members who have general queries about the Meeting should telephone John Watkins on 01483 771992 (no other methods of communication will be accepted). You may not use any electronic address provided either in this notice of general meeting; or any related documents (including the chairman's letter and proxy form), to communicate with the Company for any purposes other than those expressly stated.



# EXPLANATORY NOTES CONCERNING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

#### Articles of Association

The Notice of Meeting includes resolution 7 to amend the Company's articles of association. The amended articles (the "New Articles") include amendments to ensure that they fully comply with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 which have come into force. All provisions were anticipated to be in force by 1 October 2009. It is, therefore, proposed that the Company adopts new articles of association at the Meeting to incorporate such key changes.

By way of a brief summary, the principal changes to be made to the current articles include:

#### 1 The Company's objects

The provisions regulating the operations of the Company are currently set out in the Company's memorandum and articles of association. The Company's memorandum contains, among other things, the objects clause which sets out the scope of the activities the Company is authorised to undertake. This is drafted to give a wide scope.

The Companies Act 2006 significantly reduces the constitutional significance of a company's memorandum. The Companies Act 2006 provides that a memorandum will record only the names of subscribers and the number of shares each subscriber has agreed to take in the company. Under the Companies Act 2006 the objects clause and all other provisions which are currently contained in a company's memorandum, for existing companies at 1 October 2009, will be deemed to be contained in a company's articles of association but the company can remove these provisions by special resolution.

Further the Companies Act 2006 states that unless a company's articles provide otherwise, a company's objects are unrestricted. This abolishes the need for companies to have objects clauses. For this reason the Company is proposing to remove its objects clause together with all other provisions of its memorandum which, by virtue of the Companies Act 2006, are to be treated as forming part of the Company's articles of association as of 1 October 2009. Resolution 7 confirms the removal of these provisions for the Company. As the effect of this resolution will be to remove the statement currently in the Company's memorandum of association regarding limited liability, the New Articles also contain an express statement regarding the limited liability of the shareholders.

#### 2 Articles which duplicate statutory provisions

Provisions in the current articles which replicate provisions contained in the Companies Act 2006 are in the main to be removed in the New Articles. This is in line with the approach advocated by the Government that statutory provisions should not be duplicated in a company's constitution.

#### 3 Change of name

Currently, a company can only change its name by special resolution. Under the Companies Act 2006 a company will be able to change its name by other means provided for by its articles. To take advantage of this provision, the New Articles enable the directors to pass a resolution to change the Company's name.



#### 4 Authorised share capital and unissued shares

The Companies Act 2006 abolishes the requirement for a company to have an authorised share capital and the New Articles reflect this. Directors will still be limited as to the number of shares they can at any time allot because allotment authority continues to be required under the Companies Act 2006, save in respect of employee share schemes.

#### 5 Redeemable shares

At present if a company wishes to issue redeemable shares, it must include in its articles the terms and manner of redemption. The Companies Act 2006 enables directors to determine such matters instead provided they are so authorised by the articles. The New Articles contain such an authorisation. The Company has no plans to issue redeemable shares but if it did so the directors would need shareholders' authority to issue new shares in the usual way.

### 6 Authority to purchase own shares, consolidate and sub-divide shares, and reduce share capital

Under the law currently in force a company requires specific enabling provisions in its articles to purchase its own shares, to consolidate or subdivide its shares and to reduce its share capital or other undistributable reserves as well as shareholder authority to undertake the relevant action. The current articles include these enabling provisions. Under the Companies Act 2006 a company will only require shareholder authority to do any of these things and it will no longer be necessary for articles to contain enabling provisions. Accordingly the relevant enabling provisions have been removed in the New Articles.

#### 7 Provision for employees on cessation of business

The Companies Act 2006 provides that the powers of the directors of a company to make provision for a person employed or formerly employed by the company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the cessation or transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the company or that subsidiary, may only be exercised by the directors if they are so authorised by the company's articles or by the company in general meeting. The New Articles provide that the directors may exercise this power.

#### 8 Use of seals

A company currently requires authority in its articles to have an official seal for use abroad. After 1 October 2009 such authority is no longer required. Accordingly the relevant authorisation has been removed in the New Articles

The New Articles provide an alternative option for execution of documents (other than share certificates). Under the New Articles, when the seal is affixed to a document it may be signed by one authorised person in the presence of a witness, whereas previously the requirement was for signature by either a director and the secretary or two directors or such other person or persons as the directors may approve.



#### 9 Suspension of registration of share transfers

The current articles permit the directors to suspend the registration of transfers. Under the Companies Act 2006 share transfers must be registered as soon as practicable. The power in the current articles to suspend the registration of transfers is inconsistent with this requirement. Accordingly, this power has been removed in the New Articles.

#### 10 General

Generally the opportunity has been taken to bring clearer language into the New Articles.

The new articles will, subject to the passing of resolution 7, come into effect at the conclusion of the AGM. A full copy of the amended articles of association are available from the Company's website at www.starvest.co.uk or alternatively a hard copy can be requested by telephoning John Watkins, director and the company secretary, on 01483 771992.



## AGM VENUE St Ethelburga's

78 Bishopsgate London EC2N 4AG

#### **Directions to St Ethelburga's**

The Centre is located within St Ethelburga's Church, on the east side of Bishopsgate between St Helen's Place and Clarke's Place, just south of Camomile Street. (It is exactly opposite a very tall office block clearly marked no. 99 Bishopsgate.)

Entrance is by the passageway at the side of the church.

The nearest mainline/underground station is Liverpool Street (about 3 minutes walk). Exit the mainline Station onto Bishopsgate, turn right (south) and cross over the road. Continue past Hounsditch and Camomile Street and St Ethelburga's is a few yards further on, on the left.

Alternatively Bank or Monument Underground stations are both about 6/7 minutes walk. From Bank, take Threadneedle Street to Bishopsgate. Turn left into Bishopsgate and cross over the road. Pass under the foot-bridge and St Ethelburga's is a few yards up the road on the right. From Monument, take Gracechurch Street, which becomes Bishopsgate after you cross Leadenhall Street. Pass under the foot-bridge and St Ethelburga's is a few yards up the road on the right.

Bus route numbers 8, 26, 35, 47, 48, 149, 242, 344 and 388 stop outside the Centre.

The Centre has no car park and Bishopsgate is a red route. The nearest NCP car park is in Stoney Lane, off Hounsditch.



