

Acquisition of Kestrel Powered Access Limited

Lavendon Group plc, Europe's market leaders in the rental of powered access equipment, today announces the acquisition of Kestrel Powered Access Limited ("Kestrel").

As with the acquisition of Panther Work Platforms, announced on 14 February 2006, Kestrel will continue to operate under its own identity within the Lavendon Group. Kestrel and Panther have had strong trading links and, along with Nationwide, Lavendon's existing UK division, all three companies will maximise asset-sharing opportunities.

Lavendon's Chief Executive, Kevin Appleton said, "Kestrel has a strong reputation and position in the South West and South Wales region with a number of its customers showing huge growth potential. Following on from our recent acquisition of Panther, this is an important addition to our new network of regional businesses, complementing the geographic coverage of the Panther acquisition. Our regional businesses address different customer types and markets to our existing, Nationwide, brand but they and their customers can benefit from the breadth of fleet and administrative support they can draw on from within the group."

For Kestrel, Managing Director Mark May said "We see this as a great opportunity for Kestrel's staff and customers. We have built a strong business here in Bristol over the past few years but recognised that, if we were to continue growing, we needed to find a way to offer a broader range of products and services. Becoming part of the Lavendon Group offers us all of the advantages of a large, national company structure but allows us to keep our business culture and customer relationships intact. It also offers increased career opportunities for our staff"

22 February 2006

For further information please contact:

Lavendon Group plc
Kevin Appleton, Chief Executive
Alan Merrell, Group Finance Director

Tel: 01455 206 736

Weber Shandwick Square Mile
Nick Dibden / Yvonne Alexander

Tel: 020 7067 0700