

# ABBECREST PLC

## TRADING UPDATE

Abbeystrest plc announces an update on its trading performance over the Christmas period.

In the Chairman's interim statement announced on 24 November 2004, it was stated that certain major customers of G&A Limited were delaying their commitment to Christmas ordering for as long as possible. This cautious approach has continued throughout the peak season and has adversely affected the expected level of order intake.

As a result, the Board expects that Group normalised profit before tax for the year ending 28 February 2005 is unlikely to exceed that achieved for the full year in 2004.

Michael Lever, Chairman, commented "Whilst we are clearly disappointed with Christmas trading, we are confident that the business continues to move forward operationally, underpinned by savings from the previously announced restructuring in manufacturing".

Ends.

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