

Group Profile

Grafton Group plc is an independent, profit growth oriented company, operating in the UK and Ireland whose main activities are builders and plumbers merchanting, DIY retailing and mortar manufacturing.

The Group aims to achieve above average returns for shareholders. Grafton's strategy is to build on strong positions in businesses serving the UK and Irish construction sectors, to develop in related markets, and to grow in businesses with which it is familiar.

In the UK, Grafton is the fourth largest merchanting business trading from 426 locations comprising 221 Builders Merchanting branches trading principally under the Buildbase and Jackson brands and 205 Plumbers Merchanting branches trading under the Plumbase brand.

EuroMix is the market leader in the UK dry mortar market where it trades from a network of nine manufacturing plants in England and Scotland.

In Northern Ireland, Macnaughton Blair is one of the leading builders merchants in the province where it trades from 19 locations.

In the Republic of Ireland, the Group is the largest builders and plumbers merchanting business trading nationally from 31 branches under the Chadwicks brand and from 31 branches principally under the Heiton Buckley brand. The Group also operates the largest steel stock holding business in Ireland trading as Heiton Steel and, under the Chadwicks Hire and Sam Hire brands, the Group is market leader in the hire of scaffolding, small tool and plant equipment.

The Group is the market leader in DIY retailing in the Republic of Ireland, trading nationally from 26 Woodie's DIY and 15 Atlantic Homecare stores. The Group is also engaged in the manufacture of mortar, plastics and windows in the Republic of Ireland.

Since becoming an independent public limited company in 1987, Grafton increased its adjusted earnings per share at an average annual rate of 26 per cent. Grafton Group plc shares are listed on the Irish and London Stock Exchanges.